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COUNTY BOROUGH OF PRESTON.



# REPORT

OF THE

## Medical Officer of Health

on the Health of the Borough

for the year

# 1958.

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PRESTON:  
MATHER BROS. (PRINTERS) LTD  
ONE GARSTANG ROAD,  
1959






# ANNUAL REPORT, 1958

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# INTRODUCTION

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Another year has come and gone—a dull, cheerless year when the people looked through rain bespattered windows for a sign of the summer that never came except in name. 1958 was not a year when people could build up a reserve of strength to face the coming winter or derive any mental stimulus from the memory of warm sunny days spent in the open.

The death rate, not unexpectedly, was high, especially among the aged, but also there were more deaths amongst young members of the population from respiratory infection than are justifiable in modern times. Lethal epidemic illness of a specific nature was again absent though acute poliomyelitis gave more anxiety and a fresh wave of infective hepatitis starting in the autumn and continuing into the present year is being studied.

The building up of artificially acquired immunity against an increasing number of diseases has been enormously developed in recent years so that a disproportionately large amount of the time of the medical staff has been taken up in carrying out a comparatively simple procedure. The work of immunisation is of vital importance and cannot be hindered, but other medical work of importance is undoubtedly suffering from lack of time to deal with it. In the meantime stupendous dividends are being paid on the trifling sums invested in the prevention of diphtheria, whooping cough and smallpox, and further dividends are beginning to be distributed in respect of tuberculosis and poliomyelitis.

The provision of services designed to make life more tolerable for those less well favoured in health and fitness has proceeded apace and the atmosphere of happiness that prevails at the Handicapped Persons' Centre is testimony to the wider life available now to those whose desires and aspirations hitherto have been restricted by physical handicap.

In the field of mental health much thought and planning have been given by the Sub-committee to further evolution of the basic services that have been developed in the past few years. An adult training centre is the next likely development of magnitude.

It is appropriate here to comment on the excellent practical work being carried out by the local voluntary society. The facilities provided by the local health authority have been well utilised by the voluntary workers for the now well established crèche and have been stretched beyond the limits of reason by their enthusiastic institution of a youth club with its carpentry, music, games and other activities. The clear benefits of this spontaneous eruption as judged by the developing skills and aptitudes of the club members, demand the provision of more commodious and better equipped accommodation.



The last few years has seen the setting up of a number of voluntary groups dedicated to the welfare of sufferers from specific disabilities. It is well that the momentum for such voluntary work should be fed from voluntary sources, but since their work is complementary with duties undertaken by the local authority, a benevolent link between these two parallel working forces is beneficial and among other features is the interesting development in the regular evening use of the central clinic by some of these bodies for committee and other meetings.

The older domiciliary services concerned with personal health have continued their functions in greater or less degree dependant on the amount of staff available and it is gratifying to record that the midwifery service has once again risen from the ashes and is ever widening its activities with evening classes attended, not only by mothers, but even grandmothers.

The elimination of bad housing by demolition has continued and the progress of the past years is now showing itself in the number of cleared sites awaiting or undergoing development.

Clearing the atmosphere of aerial sewage, so allowing the people their right to breathe clean air instead of inhaling the waste products of combustion thrown off indiscriminately into the atmosphere is a purpose acclaimed by all. As usual when the personal pocket is affected the acclaim of a few turns to a howl of dismay and so some vested interests are shortsightedly giving vent to their hurt feelings with the support of the usual few muddle headed visionaries who confuse personal rights with personal obligations. In the past twenty years there has been a material redistribution of wealth and in an ever increasing number of homes there is evidence of experimentation in the provision of better space heating. Families to-day want to use for the general purposes all of the house all the year round. They are no longer satisfied with a few square feet of relative comfort round an open fire for eight months of the year. Whole house heating is as inevitable a development of the immediate future as was piped fresh water supplies and the water carriage system for sewage in the last century.

I am grateful for the active support and encouragement given to me by the Chairman and members of the Health Committee in the application of the Council's declared policies in relation to the public health and record also my thanks to the staff of the department for their loyalty and devotion to the same cause during the year.

J. S. G. BURNETT,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## Senior Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

Medical Officer of Health and Port Medical Officer ... ..	J. S. G. BURNETT, M.D., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy Port Medical Officer	L. G. SAMUEL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Assistant Medical Officers and School Medical Officers ...	G. A. McLEAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. K. DOWLING, M.B., Ch.B. N. RIDEHALGH, M.B., Ch.B. C. D. BAUGH, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.O.G. G. McDONAGH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (resigned 6.7.58). I. M. R. PURDOM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. R. E. ATKINSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (ap- pointed 1.7.58).
Chest Physician ... ..	W. GRIFFEL, M.D. Vienna, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., Ed., L.R.F.P.S. Glas.
CLINICIANS UNDERTAKING CON- SULTATIVE WORK—	
Consultant Obstetrician ... ..	R. H. J. M. CORBET, F.R.C.S.I., F.R.C.P.I., F.R.C.O.G. W. H. TOD, B.Sc., M.D., F.R.C.O.G.
Consultant Oto-rhino larynologist	J. A. KERSLEY, F.R.C.S., D.L.O.
Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon...	R. S. GARDEN, M.Ch.Orth., F.R.C.S.
Consultant Paediatrician ...	A. G. HESLING, M.R.C.P., D.C.H.
Consultant Psychiatrist ... ..	C. S. PARKER, M.D., D.P.M.
Consultant Orthodontist ... ..	F. D. ROWE, L.D.S.
Ophthalmic Surgeons ... ..	*W. SYKES, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S. (retired 7.1.58). *D. PLUM, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M., D.O.M.S. *J. MATTHEWS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Senior Dental Officer ... ..	J. C. Knowles, L.D.S. (died 3.1.58). A. KERSHAW, L.D.S. (appointed 2.6.58).
Chief Public Health Inspector ...	E. OWEN, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Veterinary Officer... ..	F. J. PROCTOR, B.Sc., M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M.
Superintendent Health Visitor ...	Miss E. W. SOWERBY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.'s Certificate.
Non-Medical Supervisor of Mid- wives ... ..	Miss D. JOBLING, S.R.N., R.F.N., S.C.M.
Superintendent District Nurse ...	Miss E. ANDERSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.



Domestic Help Organiser	...	Miss S. E. DOHERTY.
Speech Therapist ...	...	*Mrs. R. M. WILLIAMS, L.C.S.T. (resigned 18.7.58). Miss H. M. KENYON, L.C.S.T. (appointed 8.9.58).
Physiotherapists ...	...	Miss E. B. MANNING, S.R.N., C.S.M.M.G., M.E., L.E.T. Miss A. R. HARRISON, C.S.M.M.G., M.E., L.E.T. Mrs. D. HOLMES, M.C.S.P. Miss A. E. BATES, M.C.S.P. (appointed 6.1.58).
Lay Administrative Assistant	...	R. HARRISON, Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.

*\*Part-time.*

## Committee concerned with Public Health matters.

### HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Duties, powers and functions of the Council delegated to the Health Committee subject to the confirmation of their proceedings by the Council :—

- (a) all matters relating to the health of the borough and the prevention, notification and treatment of disease, not otherwise delegated to this or some other committee of the Council ;
- (b) the superintendence of the department of the Medical Officer of Health (other than those officers mainly attached to services administered by other committees) and the appointment of Public Health inspectors ;
- (c) the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951 ; the Fabrics (Misdescription) Act, 1913, the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926, the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Acts, 1928 and 1931, the Riding Establishments Act, 1939, and any Orders, Rules, Regulations or Byelaws having effect under any of the said Acts ;
- (d) the provisions of the Nurses Acts, 1957 and the Nurses Registration Act, 1957 ;
- (e) as the Port Health Authority ;
- (f) as the Local Health Authority under the National Health Service Acts, 1946 to 1952 ;
- (g) Part III of the National Assistance Act, 1948, relating to the provision of residential and temporary accommodation and the provision of welfare services for handicapped persons ;
- (h) Part IV of the National Assistance Act, 1948, except the registration of charities for disabled persons ;
- (i) the provision and maintenance of public sanitary conveniences.



Duties, powers and functions of the Council delegated to the Health Committee :—

- (a) the Diseases of Animals Act, 1950, for the purpose of which the committee shall be the executive committee ;
- (b) the Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933 to 1954 ;
- (c) the Pharmacy and Poisons Acts, 1852 to 1941 ;
- (d) the provisions of the Public Health Acts and local Acts, so far as they relate to health and sanitary matters, and in particular, but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing delegation, the following provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, viz. :—  
Sections 39 to 41 ; 44 to 52 ; 56 ; 58 ; 83 to 86 ; Part III ; Sections 124 ; 138 to 141 ; Parts IX and X ; Sections 259 to 261 ; 268 ; 269 and 288.
- (e) the Housing Acts, 1936 to 1952, so far as they relate to insanitary property and overcrowding ;
- (f) Part I (Health General Provisions) and Part VIII (Home Work) of the Factories Act, 1937 ;
- (g) the Food and Drugs Acts, 1955 (except Part III) and the Merchandise Marks Acts, 1887 to 1926 ;
- (h) the provisions of the Shops Acts relating to health and welfare ;
- (i) Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 ;
- (j) the Rivers Pollution Prevention Acts ;
- (k) the Midwives Act, 1951 ;
- (l) the Pet Animals Act, 1951 ;
- (m) the Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952.
- (n) Sections 36 and 90 of the Housing Act, 1957, and so much of the Rent Act, 1957, as relates to the issue and cancellation of certificates of disrepair.
- (o) The Clean Air Act, 1956.

## **SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.**

### **Mental Health Services Sub-committee.**

Duties under the Lunacy, Mental Treatment and Mental Deficiency Acts, and the care and after-care of persons suffering from mental illness or defectiveness.

### **Domiciliary Services Sub-committee.**

Duties relating to the care of mothers and young children, midwifery, health visiting, home nursing, vaccination and immunisation, prevention of illness, care and after-care (except of persons suffering from mental illness or defectiveness) and domestic helps.

### **Homes, Hostels and Welfare Services Sub-committee.**

Duties concerned with the provision of residential accommodation for the aged and infirm and others in need of care and attention, the provision of temporary accommodation for persons in urgent need of such accommodation, and the registration and inspection of disabled persons' or old persons' homes provided otherwise than by the local authority, and with the provision of welfare services for the blind, deaf and dumb, crippled and others suffering from disabilities.

## Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

### 1958

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	(acres)	6,350
Population (Registrar General's mid-year estimate, 1958)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	115,100
										(Census, April 1951—119,250)
Number of inhabited houses, according to Rate books (as at 1.4.58)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37,852
Rateable Value (as at 1.4.58)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£1,241,951
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (Financial year, 1958-59)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£5,103
Total cost of services administered by the Health Committee for the year ending 31st March, 1959:—										

Expenditure	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£401,912
Income	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£191,733
Net cost	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£210,179

						<i>Birth Rate per 1,000 of population</i>	
						<i>Crude Rate</i>	<i>Adjusted *</i>
		<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>			
Live Births	...	1,864	968	896		16.19	16.19
Legitimate	...	1,743	902	841		15.14	15.14
Illegitimate	...	121	66	55		1.05	1.05

Number of Still-births : 38. Rate per 1,000 total births : 19.98.

Total live and Stillbirths : 1,902.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age : 58.

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births :

<i>Legitimate</i>	<i>Illegitimate</i>	<i>Total</i>
31	33	31

Deaths of Infants under one month : 41.

Neo-natal mortality rate : 22 per 1,000 live births.

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births : 6.49%.

Number of women dying in or in consequence of child birth :—

<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 live and still-births</i>
—	Nil.

Deaths—nett : 1,457. Rate per 1,000 population : 12.66 (crude rate)  
14.56 (adjusted rate)\*.

Percentage of total deaths in hospitals and public institutions : 41.66.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) : 260.

Deaths from Measles (all ages) : Nil.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) : Nil.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) : One

Number of Marriages : 942.

* Area comparability factor :	Births	...	1.00
	Deaths	...	1.15



**Table 1.**  
**Comparative Statement of Vital Statistics.**  
**Year 1958.**

	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate	Stillbirth Rate (per 1,000 live and still births)	Perinatal Mortality Rate	Death Rate from Phthisis	Death Rate from other Tub. Diseases	Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births)		
								Maternal causes excluding abortion	Due to abortion	Total maternal mortality
England and Wales ...	16.4	11.7	22.5	21.6	†	.089*	0.011*	0.35*	0.08*	0.43*
Birkenhead ...	17.8	13.3	29.3	33.2	50.8	0.12	0.007	—	0.36	0.36
Burnley ...	15.7	15.3	28.08	29.52	51.48	0.08	0.024	—	—	—
Bury ...	15.61	15.13	22.25	23.68	36.6	0.07	—	—	—	—
Halifax ...	16.00	14.93	27.56	15.5	27.13	0.13	—	0.65	—	0.65
Liverpool ...	20.5	11.7	27.7	25.7	41.4	0.14	0.009	0.25	—	0.25
Manchester ...	18.22	12.7	25.62	25.44	42.11	0.10	0.02	0.39	0.24	0.63
Oldham ...	15.13	14.38	27.37	23.99	36.31	0.09	0.008	1.09	0.55	1.64
<b>Preston ...</b>	<b>16.19</b>	<b>14.56</b>	<b>31.12</b>	<b>19.98</b>	<b>31.55</b>	<b>0.09</b>	<b>0.009</b>	—	—	—
Rochdale ...	16.5	15.2	23.0	24.4	33.0	0.11	0.01	—	—	—
Salford ...	17.91	13.2	28.67	24.96	42.93	0.12	0.018	—	—	—
St. Helens ...	16.9	11.4	35.8	37.6	57.2	0.15	0.02	—	0.51	0.51
Stockport ...	16.3	13.8	25.16	22.47	38.16	0.11	0.01	0.38	—	0.38
Wallasey ...	17.32	12.76	24.69	25.16	38.84	0.13	0.03	—	—	—
Wigan ...	15.23	11.57	26.6	30.6	43.0	0.12	0.01	—	—	—

† Not available.

\* Provisional Figure.



Table 2.  
Vital Statistics of whole District during 1958 and previous ten years.

Year	Total Population	Births (Nett)		Total Deaths Registered in the District		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to the District		
		Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Of Non-Residents Registered in the District	Of Residents not Registered in the District	Under 1 year of age		At all ages
								Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	
1948	118,130	2,219	18.78	1,443	12.22	280	328	86	39	12.62
1949	119,500	2,170	18.16	1,433	11.99	288	324	94	43	12.91*
1950	120,300	2,101	17.46	1,536	12.77	286	300	68	32	13.39
1951	118,100	1,962	16.61	1,731	14.66	292	377	68	35	15.99
1952	119,200	1,960	16.44	1,439	12.07	292	306	63	32	12.67
1953	118,900	1,914	16.10	1,430	12.03	328	252	63	33	11.83
1954	118,400	1,823	15.40	1,450	12.25	317	274	50	27	12.83
1955	117,400	1,832	15.60	1,503	12.80	355	311	53	29	13.42
1956	117,200	1,843	15.73	1,466	12.50	332	315	55	30	14.46
1957	116,200	1,933	16.64	1,442	12.41	350	353	67	35	14.43
1958	115,100	1,864	16.19	1,534	13.30	394	317	58	31	14.56

\* The death rate from the year 1949 onwards has been adjusted in accordance with the area comparability factor supplied by the Registrar General annually. The figure for 1948 is the crude death rate.

Area of District in acres (Land and Inland Water)	...	...	...	Census 1931	Census 1951
Average rooms per occupied dwelling	...	...	...	4,029	5,684
Average family occupation	...	...	...	4.47	4.35
Number of families per occupied dwelling	...	...	...	4.36	4.15
Average size of private family	...	...	...	1.02	1.05
Average number of persons per room	...	...	...	3.78	3.24
	...	...	...	0.85	0.76

## Population.

For many years past Preston has been completely built up and two small county borough extensions have been obtained since the last war to provide building land for new Corporation estates. There have been no sites of any magnitude available for private building which has, in consequence, taken place extensively in the surrounding residential areas, particularly in Penwortham and Fulwood.

## Births.

The slight upward curve in the birth rate that was apparent over the years from 1954 was checked in 1958, when the rate of 16.19 represented a slight fall from the previous year. This is the first time for many years that the local authority rate has not been in excess of the national rate.

**Table 3.**  
**Number of Births registered in the various wards.**

Ward	Estimated Population	Births	Rate per 1,000 population
St. John's ... ..	11,160	206	18.46
Avenham ... ..	9,440	153	16.21
Central ... ..	11,280	195	17.29
Ashton ... ..	8,860	113	12.75
Savick ... ..	6,220	111	16.24
Tulketh ... ..	8,870	105	11.84
Moorbrook ... ..	10,020	159	15.86
Park ... ..	10,020	175	17.46
St. Matthew's ... ..	10,010	146	14.58
Deepdale ... ..	8,740	105	12.01
Ribbleton ... ..	11,050	242	21.90
Fishwick ... ..	9,430	154	16.33
	115,100	1,864	

## Deaths.

Deaths referable to Preston amounted to 1,457 equivalent to an adjusted death rate of 14.56. The cancer rate continues high, with lung cancer reaching a new peak.

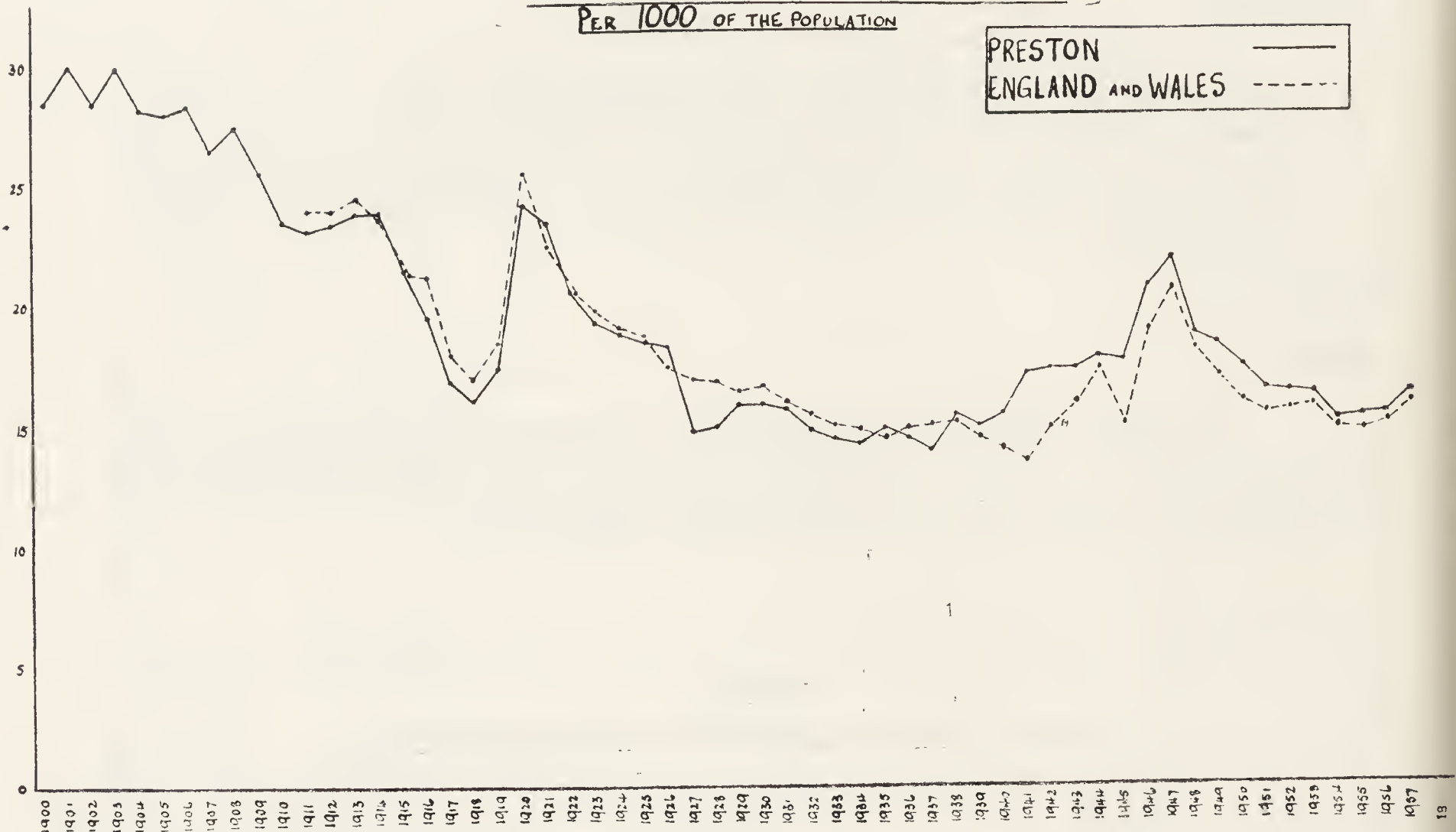
There was an unusually high incidence of deaths between the ages of one and fourteen years, including six deaths from bronchitis or pneumonia, three from violence and three from malignancy.

# BIRTH RATE 1900-1958

PER 1000 OF THE POPULATION

PRESTON

ENGLAND AND WALES



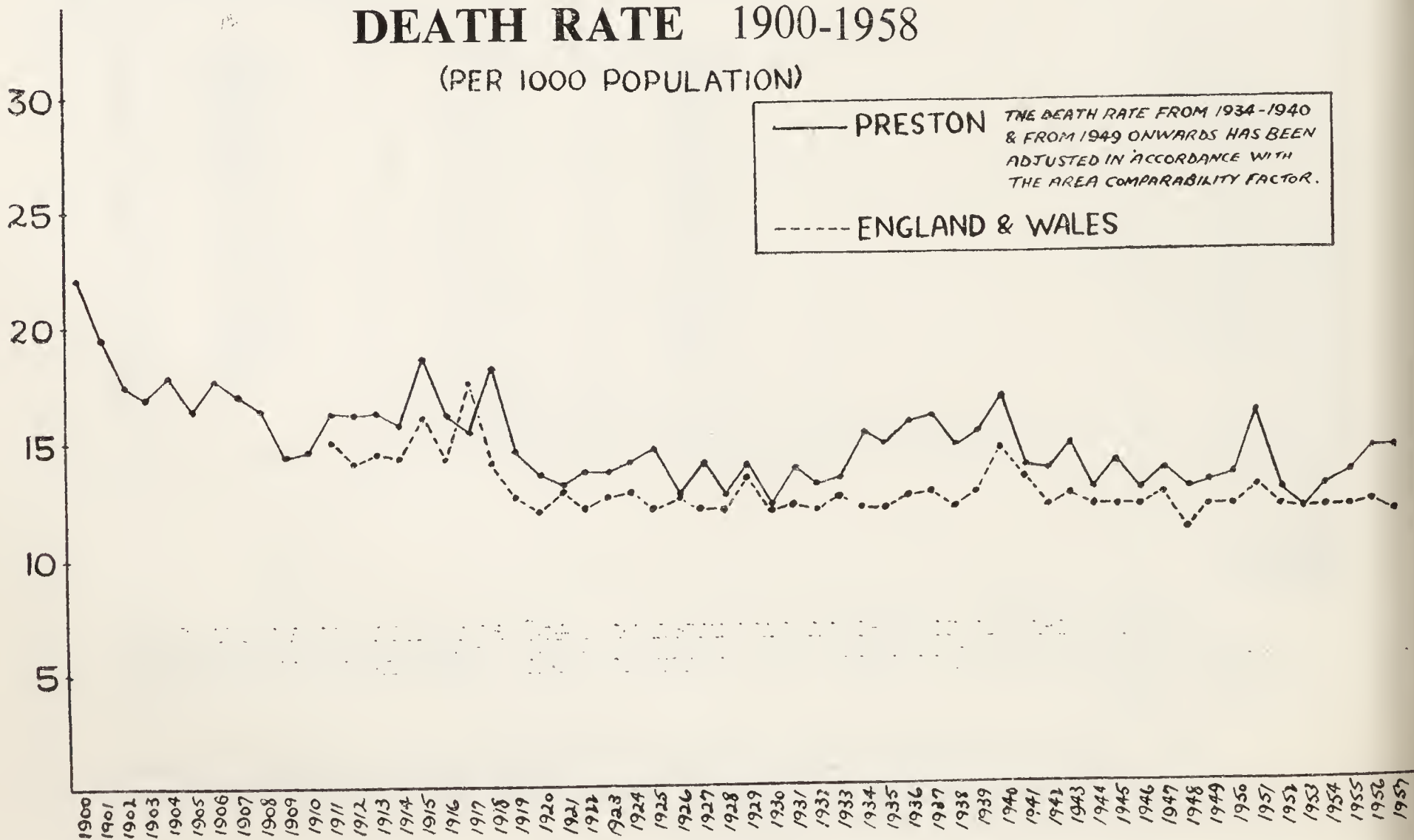
## DEATH RATE 1900-1958

(PER 1000 POPULATION)

PRESTON

ENGLAND & WALES

THE DEATH RATE FROM 1934-1940 & FROM 1949 ONWARDS HAS BEEN ADJUSTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AREA COMPARABILITY FACTOR.





**Table 4.**  
**Causes of Death—arranged according to sex and age.**

				0—		1—		15—		65 and over		Total	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	—	—	—	—	7	—	4	—	11	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	1	2	4
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal Infections	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
8.	Measles	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	2	1
10.	Malignant, neoplasm, stomach	...	...	—	—	—	—	9	9	9	13	18	22
11.	„ „ lung, bronchus	...	...	—	—	—	—	36	3	22	2	58	5
12.	„ „ breast	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	16	—	10	—	26
13.	„ „ uterus	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	2	—	10
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	...	...	—	—	1	1	33	22	24	34	58	57
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	—	—	1	—	2	1	1	1	4	2
16.	Diabetes	...	...	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	5	3	6
17.	Vascular Lesions of nervous system	...	...	—	—	—	—	22	17	63	107	85	124
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	—	—	—	—	65	17	84	50	149	67
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	—	—	—	—	1	4	3	16	4	20
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	—	—	—	—	15	3	71	112	86	115
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	—	—	—	—	10	1	35	35	45	36
22.	Influenza	...	...	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	2	3	4
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	3	4	3	2	15	5	16	13	37	24
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	—	—	1	—	22	8	42	23	65	31
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	—	—	1	—	4	2	4	2	9	4
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	—	—	—	—	8	1	3	2	11	3
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	6	3	8
28.	Nephritis, nephrosis...	...	...	—	—	1	—	4	2	3	4	8	6
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	8	11	2	—	—	1	—	—	10	12
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	24	4	1	—	15	15	16	43	56	62
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	—	5	1
34.	All other accidents	...	...	2	2	—	1	8	2	9	16	19	21
35.	Suicide	...	...	—	—	—	—	4	10	3	6	7	16
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	—	—	—	2	3	2	—	—	3	4
TOTALS				37	21	13	7	294	158	422	505	766	691
				58		20		452		927		1,457	

**Table 5.**  
**Deaths in Hospitals and Institutions.**

	M	F	Total
Preston Royal Infirmary...	136	94	230
St. Joseph's Hospital	10	24	34
Chestnuts Sanatorium	9	1	10
Isolation Hospital...	8	2	10
Willows Convalescent Home	6	—	6
Sharoe Green Hospital	123	110	233
Hospitals, other, outside the area	53	31	84
Total	345	262	607

The figure of 607 deaths in hospitals and institutions represents 41.66% of the total deaths.

**Table 6.**  
**Deaths in the various wards.**

	St. John's	Avenham	Central	Ashton	Savick	Tulketh	Moorbrook	Park	St. Matthew's	Deepdale	Ribbleton	Fishwick	Totals
Percentage of Total Population...	9.70	8.20	9.80	7.70	5.40	7.70	8.70	8.70	8.70	7.60	9.60	8.20	
Under 1 year	9	3	5	3	5	3	4	4	5	6	3	8	58
1—2 years	1	1	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	5
2—5 years	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	5
5—15 years	2	—	1	—	—	1	2	1	1	—	2	—	10
15—25 years	2	1	1	2	—	—	1	1	1	—	1	1	11
25—45 years	4	4	6	4	8	1	5	3	3	3	10	1	52
45—65 years	55	37	47	25	19	25	35	45	25	27	21	28	389
65—75 years	29	39	53	39	13	25	51	42	34	29	23	26	403
75 and over	62	47	51	58	14	39	47	52	50	40	16	48	524
Total	165	132	164	134	59	95	146	148	119	105	77	113	1457



**Table 7.**  
**Comparative Annual Numbers and Rates of Births and Deaths.**

Year	Population	No. of Births	Rate per 1,000 Living	No. of Infant Deaths	Infant Mortality	Maternal Mortality			Total No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Living
						Diseases and Accidents P.F.	Others	Rate per 1,000 Births		
0	118,902	3,410	28.67	814	236	2	11	3.80	2,636	22.16
1	113,117	3,418	30.21	737	218	12	13	7.31	2,213	19.56
2	113,766	3,278	28.81	618	188	4	10	4.27	1,998	17.56
3	114,404	3,453	30.18	541	156	3	15	5.21	1,955	17.08
4	115,055	3,314	28.26	609	183	5	12	5.13	2,091	17.83
5	115,721	3,259	28.16	490	150	7	12	5.83	1,906	16.47
6	116,399	3,317	28.49	665	200	2	13	4.52	2,065	17.74
7	117,093	3,124	26.68	495	158	1	11	3.84	2,003	17.10
8	117,799	3,309	27.56	516	156	2	11	3.92	1,975	16.45
9	118,519	3,027	25.54	416	137	5	8	4.29	1,721	14.52
0	119,253	2,812	23.58	438	156	4	7	3.91	1,758	14.74
1	117,216	2,726	23.25	473	173	2	13	5.50	1,984	16.92
2	117,630	2,753	23.40	342	124	1	4	1.82	1,972	16.76
3	118,070	2,888	23.95	462	160	2	6	2.77	2,043	16.98
4	118,514	2,841	23.97	401	141	2	20	7.74	1,873	15.80
5	118,118	2,546	21.48	395	155	5	7	4.71	2,086	18.63
6	119,611	2,315	19.36	254	109	3	3	2.59	1,774	16.14
7	118,993	2,019	16.96	255	124	1	5	2.96	1,660	15.46
8	118,595	1,906	16.07	213	113	2	4	3.15	1,944	18.36
9	122,168	2,086	17.45	225	110	5	4	4.31	1,760	14.72
0	122,133	2,984	24.43	301	101	9	13	7.37	1,659	13.60
1	119,900	2,811	23.44	316	112	7	8	5.34	1,595	13.30
2	120,900	2,482	20.53	242	97	3	9	4.83	1,662	13.75
3	121,700	2,426	19.11	238	98	3	8	4.54	1,676	13.77
4	123,100	2,328	18.91	225	97	5	8	5.58	1,714	13.92
5	122,900	2,174	17.69	286	131	6	7	3.22	1,787	14.54
6	124,200	2,160	17.39	195	90	8	9	7.87	1,596	12.85
7	127,100	1,892	14.88	206	109	3	6	4.77	1,785	14.04
8	127,100	1,916	15.07	175	91	3	9	6.27	1,614	12.69
9	126,100	1,967	15.60	205	104	4	8	6.10	1,772	14.05
0	126,100	1,975	15.66	145	73	9	4	6.59	1,554	12.24
1	120,100	1,881	15.66	165	88	5	5	5.32	1,661	13.83
2	118,500	1,764	14.89	149	84	4	6	5.67	1,547	13.05
3	117,800	1,720	14.60	150	87	4	3	4.07	1,577	13.39
4	117,490	1,670	14.24	115	69	6	14	11.97	1,611	15.24*
5	116,200	1,742	14.99	140	80	3	5	4.59	1,578	14.94*
6	115,200	1,663	14.43	138	83	7	8	8.60	1,624	15.51*
7	113,600	1,590	14.00	123	77	2	2	2.40	1,614	15.90*
8	113,200	1,766	15.60	125	71	3	—	1.62	1,473	14.44*
9	112,800	1,713	15.19	100	58	2	4	3.34	1,535	15.16*
0	108,500	1,711	15.77	157	91	2	10	7.03	1,745	16.72*
1	111,490	1,925	17.27	137	71	3	4	3.47	1,543	13.84
2	110,000	1,968	17.89	107	54	2	4	2.94	1,506	13.69
3	109,100	1,952	17.89	132	68	2	2	1.98	1,624	14.89
4	108,190	2,032	18.78	120	59	—	1	0.48	1,386	12.81
5	108,480	1,949	17.97	99	51	1	—	0.51	1,514	13.96
6	114,070	2,380	20.86	134	56	—	4	1.68	1,438	12.61
7	116,520	2,574	22.09	178	69	1	—	0.32	1,578	13.54
8	118,130	2,219	18.78	86	39	1	—	0.44	1,491	12.62
9	119,500	2,170	18.16	94	43	1	—	0.45	1,469	12.91*
0	120,300	2,101	17.46	68	32	—	—	—	1,550	13.39*
1	118,100	1,962	16.61	68	35	—	3	1.49	1,816	15.99*
2	119,200	1,960	16.44	63	32	—	—	—	1,453	12.67*
3	118,900	1,914	16.10	63	33	—	4	2.04	1,354	11.83*
4	118,400	1,823	15.40	50	27	—	1	0.54	1,407	12.83*
5	117,400	1,832	15.60	53	29	—	2	1.07	1,459	13.42*
6	117,200	1,843	15.73	55	30	—	1	0.53	1,449	14.46*
7	116,200	1,933	16.64	67	35	—	2	1.01	1,445	14.43*
8	115,100	1,864	16.19	58	31	—	—	—	1,457	14.56*

death rate for the years 1934-1940 and 1949 onwards have been adjusted in accordance with the area compo-  
nity factor supplied by the Registrar General annually. The figures for other years are crude death rates.



### Employment in the Area.

Mr. Heyworth, Manager of the Local Employment Exchange, has provided the following information :—

“The year of 1958 has seen a gradual decline in the general employment situation in the Preston area from the high level of employment which was maintained in 1957. Much of the increased unemployment has been caused by the trade recession in the textile industry resulting in the total closure of four cotton mills and extensive short-time working at most of the mills in the area. Commencing early in the year, the recession affecting all parts of the Lancashire industry persisted and ended the year with a substantial number of workers still on short-time and the labour force continued to contract.

This contraction of the major industry is seriously affecting textile engineering and other allied industries. The footwear industry has suffered from reduced activity and two firms have given up business during the year. Concentration of production in electric lamp manufacture has resulted in the closure of an old-established factory in the town.

Fortunately Preston has a diverse industrial structure and firms engaged in aircraft, vehicle manufacture, metal manufacture, general engineering, chemicals, woodworking, paper and printing, have maintained full employment throughout the year and a marked expansion in aircraft and manufacture of metal goods together with the establishment of a new industry of switchgear manufacture, has largely offset the contractions in the older industries absorbing many of the redundant workers who have proven themselves adaptable to a change of occupation.

Particular assistance was given by the Employment Exchange Service to employees of the several firms which closed down during 1958. In many cases it was possible to place redundant workers in alternative employment without any intervening unemployment. The Service has been maintained with full vigour during the year. With a much tighter industrial situation, the number of vacancies becoming available was inevitably reduced but it was still possible to place about 6,000 persons in employment during 1958.

The special Employment Service centred in the Preston Exchange available to persons of professional executive status and to young people seeking professional and executive appointments has continued to develop during the year. Particular emphasis has been given to finding opportunities for employment for members of the Forces made redundant by cuts in the Armed Services.

Disablement Resettlement Officers continued their help and guidance to disabled persons. Whilst the number of unemployed disabled persons tended to increase with the worsening industrial climate, the increase was not out of proportion with the general increase in unemployment. Nor has there been any reduction in the willingness of Preston employers to accept suitable disabled persons into employment.

There has been continued co-operation with the Medical Authorities and Disablement Resettlement Officers have regularly visited hospitals to interview patients before discharge and to arrange courses at Industrial Rehabilitation Units and Training Centres.

The Nursing Appointments Office has been used freely by men and women—qualified and unqualified—seeking employment in the Nursing profession.

Unemployment in Preston declined slightly in the last quarter of the year and December was not above the national average. Placing activities indicate a fair demand for labour in a diversity of industry and together with the important and extensive activities in Distribution, Public Services and County Administration, the employment situation at the end of the year was of a standard not less favourable than the national position.

The Local Employment Committee (Chairman Mr. W. Seed) and the Disablement Advisory Committee (Chairman Dr. P. M. Logan) meeting at quarterly intervals have maintained a constant review of the employment situation and made recommendations to the Ministry on the vital problems affecting employment in the community."

**Table 8.**  
**Monthly Unemployed Register, 1958.**

1958	MEN		WOMEN		Total 1958	Total 1957	Total 1956
	Wholly Unemployed	Tempora'ly Stopped	Wholly Unemployed	Tempora'ly Stopped			
January ...	561	40	380	70	1051	841	500
February...	648	72	405	256	1381	897	520
March ...	598	104	421	399	1522	829	534
April ...	629	41	404	170	1244	684	532
May ...	614	46	448	421	1529	683	482
June ...	710	96	465	518	1789	688	474
July ...	714	82	523	344	1663	623	566
August ...	749	297	578	750	2374	683	542
September	871	197	614	512	2194	776	712
October ...	928	135	543	304	1910	688	633
November	970	145	457	449	2021	656	581
December	924	149	438	356	1867	729	525

Mr. Richardson, the Juvenile Employment Officer, has furnished the following figures in regard to the number of juveniles who were unemployed during the year.

**Table 9.**  
**Number of Unemployed Juveniles  
in 1958 and the previous year.**

Month	Boys		Girls		Total	
	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958
January ...	15	20	12	28	27	48
February ...	17	18	11	8	28	26
March ...	22	14	7	11	29	25
April ...	139	55	17	23	156	78
May ...	27	20	5	13	32	33
June ...	11	26	6	13	17	39
July ...	12	23	3	8	15	31
August ...	96	70	17	20	113	90
September ...	34	60	10	31	44	91
October ...	13	29	13	15	26	44
November ...	17	35	6	5	23	40
December ...	9	19	7	7	16	26



## General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

### 1. CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

#### Statistics.

1,864 live births were registered during the year and there were 38 stillbirths.

Domiciliary midwives notified 24.6% of the total births, 45.7% were notified from Sharoe Green Hospital and 21.5% from Preston Royal Infirmary.

Investigations into the social circumstances of applicants for admission to hospital for confinement continued to be carried out and numbered 73 in respect of Sharoe Green Hospital and 12 for Preston Royal Infirmary. Advice was given that there were reasonable facilities for domiciliary confinement in 48 cases.

*Maternal deaths.* No maternal death occurred during the year.

*Puerperal pyrexia.* 39 cases were notified during the year and 34 of these came from hospitals.

*Stillbirths.* Total number 38.

Source of notification :—

Sharoe Green Hospital	...	21
Preston Royal Infirmary	...	12
St. Joseph's Hospital	...	2
Domiciliary practice	...	3

The stillbirth rate of 19.98 per 1,000 related births was much lower than in 1957.

*Infant deaths.*

Total number of deaths of infants under the age of one year	58
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	... 31.1
Number of deaths of infants under one month old	... 41
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	... 22.0

Some reduction in infant mortality from the regrettably high figure of 1957 took place in 1958 when a rate of 31 deaths per 1,000 live births occurred as compared with a figure of 22.5 for England and Wales and 35 for Preston in 1957.

Table 1 shows that the perinatal rate for Preston was the second lowest amongst the fourteen towns listed, as was also the stillbirth rate, and yet the infant mortality rate was the second highest in the same group. Table 10 shows that the high death rate in infants over one month has resulted from no fewer than five deaths from pneumonia and four fatal accidents in that group. It is reasonable to allege that these nine deaths were avoidable.



Table 10.  
Infant Deaths.

Cause of Death (Registrar-General's Abridged List)	AGE AT DEATH																Total	
	Days				Weeks		Months											
	0—		1—6		1—3		1+		2+		4+		6+		9—12			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
23. Pneumonia ... ..					1	1		1	1	1			1			1	3	4
31. Congenital Malformations ...	2	3	2	1	2	3		2	1	1		1			1		8	11
32. {	Asphyxia and Atelectasis ...	4	2	2		1									1		8	2
	Intracranial Birth Injury ...	2		2													4	
	Prematurity ... ..	2	2	1		1											4	2
	Other Defined and Ill- defined Causes ... ..	4		3							1						8	
34. All other Accidents ... ..								1	1					1	1		2	2
Total ...	14	7	10	1	5	4		4	3	2	1	1	1	1	3	1	37	21

Clinic Premises.

Altogether five *ad hoc* maternity and child welfare clinics were in use during the year : Saul Street, Walton's Parade, Manchester Road, Cuttle Street and Tulketh Road. Rented premises continued to be used at Barlow Street, Guttridge and St. Mary's, Ribbleton.

As a matter of policy the Health Committee has considered it reasonable to make available in the evening accommodation in the central clinic, Saul Street, for certain voluntary organisations engaged in the promotion of the welfare of persons handicapped in various ways. The Preston and District Club of the British Diabetic Association have had use of the premises in this way during the whole of the year and the Preston and District Spastic Group of the National Spastics Society were given equivalent facilities towards the end of the year.

Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics.

Seven combined ante-natal and post-natal clinics were held weekly in 1958. The session previously held at Manchester Road Clinic was transferred in January to Saul Street and combined with the clinic already held there. During the year 747 mothers made 3,981 attendances compared with 758 and 3,451 respectively in 1957. The numbers of mothers attending for post-natal examination rose from 23 in 1957 to 40 in 1958. These figures do not include attendances at the Royal Infirmary and Sharoe Green Hospital Maternity Departments.

In addition the consultative ante-natal clinic was held weekly at Saul Street. Altogether 403 mothers attended this clinic for the first time and 121 re-attended during the year.

Routine tests and procedures were continued during the year at the clinics, such as checking blood pressure, urine and weight at each visit ; testing blood for blood group and anaemia ; referring the expectant mother to the consultative clinic at Saul Street at the eighth month ; and sending a letter to the general practitioner at eight months informing him of the findings at the ante-natal clinic. These procedures are expected and appreciated by the mothers most of whom now realise the need for such measures.

Relaxation exercises for childbirth are taught by the physiotherapists and are available to all mothers.

A mild degree of anaemia is still common in expectant mothers and in a few cases the anaemia has been severe. Giving iron orally in the early months has proved a valuable procedure in improving the well-being of the mother in such cases and although these mothers had made little complaint many were surprised to realise how much below par they had been until their energy returned with the reduction of their anaemia. Some felt better than they had done for years. In the few severe cases intensive treatment by the family doctor was needed. These mothers must have felt in very poor health for a long time and one wonders how they had been able to cope with household duties and the care of a family.

### **Child Welfare Clinics.**

Nine medical sessions and one non-medical session were held weekly throughout the year. The weekly non-medical session at Barlow Street and the fortnightly non-medical session at Guttridge were discontinued in February 1958. Total attendances during the year at the clinics numbered 24,205. The total number of children who attended was 3,169.

The routine medical examination of babies on their first visit to the clinic, again at about six months of age and at one year of age, continued to form an important part of the work of infant welfare centres. Mothers appreciate the opportunity of a periodic examination of their children and to be able to discuss problems at an early stage.

The last ten years have seen changes in infant feeding not necessarily to new methods but to the best part of very old methods. Ten years ago most babies were fed by the clock with set quantities of milk : now many are "fed on demand" and given as much as they will take and as a result seem to have less "indigestion." A decade ago mixed feeding was usually started at five to six months by most mothers and not till nine months by a few. Now they are advised to start very early with cereals and baby soups and most of the babies take these readily by three months and some at six weeks or even sooner. The children seem more contented and less likely to refuse feeds than those fed entirely on milk, and the problem of the baby who refuses to be weaned from the bottle when seven or eight months old now rarely arises. Those who are thus early on mixed feeding tend to be less fat than those entirely on dried milk.



Defects observed at the clinics have changed in the last ten years either in nature or degree. Cases of infection often used to be seen at clinics. Whooping cough with its often serious consequences in damage to the lung was commonly seen either in the early stages or in its effects on an exhausted child after an attack. Now it is a rarity. Tuberculosis has practically disappeared. Other respiratory infections, coughs, colds and "influenza" are just as common but now seldom so severe in their effects. There have always been some children with infantile eczema, formerly very distressing to the parents and needing much help with dressings and nursing as well as treatment from hospital or family doctor. With modern drugs these cases are much relieved and the mother is able to cope. Physical defects such as squint, crooked toes and occasionally wryneck are still noted at the clinic and referred for appropriate treatment. Some defects commonly seen such as birth marks or umbilical hernia usually disappear naturally without the treatment formerly given.

More mothers are attending the "make-do and mend" sessions with dress-making and toymaking activities held at the various clinics weekly or fortnightly by two demonstrators. The mothers have become more ambitious in their efforts and more make coats as well as dresses. New mothers coming into the clinic are seeing what the experienced ones have done and are joining in.

Displays on subjects of interest such as accidents in the home and smoking and lung cancer were put on in the show cases now placed in Saul Street, Cuttle Street and Tulketh Road clinics and on portable sets at the other centres. Group discussions continued through the year. A number of films were shown at the clinics and were very popular with the mothers, among them being "His Fighting Chance," "Defence against Polio," "Know your Baby," "Jenny comes Home" and "Playing with Fire."

The ladies of the Preston and District Infant Welfare Voluntary Workers Association have continued to give their services and to render assistance at the infant welfare clinics.

### **Toddlers' Clinics.**

Toddlers' clinics were held every fortnight at all the child welfare centres. Appointments are made for children between the ages of two and five at about the time of their birthdays to come for a routine medical examination at the clinic, and sufficient time is allowed for each consultation so that any problems can be discussed at some length. Most of the children of these ages are sturdy but there are some who suffer from repeated infections especially respiratory, from pigeon toes and other minor difficulties in walking, and from behaviour problems. One such problem which many mothers handle well, but a few cannot, is that of the toddler's reaction to the arrival of a new baby in the home. Even with careful preparation and reassurance the toddler's feelings towards the newcomer are very mixed, the natural interest in a baby being overshadowed by fear that he has lost his place in mother's affection. He tends either to show difficult behaviour or to relapse into babyishness and the mother needs to show great patience and demonstrate her affection for quite a long period to overcome this. Mothers are taught in the clinics to be prepared for this reaction and how to handle it but there are some who are unable and who bring the older toddler along as a difficult child. They admit that they have been impatient and thought the child tiresome and this can be the start of a "problem child."



Table 11 shows the numbers attending the various clinics during the year.

<b>Table 11.</b> <b>Toddlers' Clinics, 1958.</b>						
Clinic			No. invited	No. who attended		No. referred for specialist treatment
						No. referred for observation
Barlow Street	...	...	518	202	39.0%	7
Cuttle Street	...	...	455	216	47.5%	11
Deepdale	...	...	466	206	44.2%	28
St. Mary's	...	...	318	131	41.2%	3
Manchester Road	...	...	349	136	39.0%	18
Waltons Parade	...	...	377	136	36.1%	17
Tulketh Road	...	...	307	136	44.3%	22
Saul Street	...	...	341	90	26.4%	12
Totals	...	...	3,131	1,253	40.02%	118
						52

### Welfare Foods.

The centre at the Town Hall continued to sell the standard goods and the following quantities were distributed :—

National Dried Milk	...	...	...	41,237 tins
Orange Juice	...	...	...	68,882 bottles
Cod Liver Oil	...	...	...	6,310 „
Vitamins A and D	...	...	...	7,223 packets

In addition, dried milk and other nutrients continued to be sold at the welfare centres and during 1958 a quantity costing £2,853 was handled. The supply of free nutrients cost the Council £60.

### ANCILLARY THERAPY.

#### Dental Treatment.

Mr. A. Kershaw, the Senior Dental Officer, has supplied the following report :—

“The treatment of nursing and expectant mothers and pre-school children has been undertaken by the diminishing available dental staff.

These groups are referred by the medical officers at the clinics.

The total work for the year is shown in Table 12.

<b>Table 12.</b> <b>No. of patients provided with dental treatment and form of treatment given.</b>							Expectant and nursing mothers	Children under 5 years
Examined	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	59
Needing treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	38	51
Treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	35	47
Made dentally fit	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	47
Extractions	...	...	...	...	...	...	63	61
Anaesthetics—Local	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	3
General	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	34
Fillings	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	73
Scaling and gum treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	1
Silver nitrate treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	24
Dressings	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	17
Radiographs	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
<b>Dentures provided—</b>								
Complete	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	—
Partial	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
Dentures re-lined	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Attendances by Patients	...	...	...	...	...	...	139	136

### Physiotherapy.

Regular clinic sessions for remedial exercises were held at Cuttle Street, Manchester Road, the Open Air School, Tulketh Road and Saul Street clinics, and artificial sunlight therapy was also given at all centres except Saul Street. Exercises for expectant mothers were given at weekly sessions held at Guttridge, Manchester Road, Tulketh Road, Cuttle Street and Saul Street ante-natal clinics.

The following table shows details of the work done in 1958 :—

<b>Table 13.</b> <b>Physiotherapy treatment</b>					
		New Patients	Number Discharged	Attendances	Sessions held
Pre-school children	...	116	157	3,439	560
Expectant mothers	...	70	36	307	120
Artificial sunlight therapy	...	54	60	1,079	129

### Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic.

Facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of ear, nose and throat conditions exist through the clinic run as part of the School Health Service. The following is a summary of the work done for pre-school children :

New cases	...	...	...	...	44
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	59
Referred for :					
Operative treatment	...	...	...	...	34
Treatment in clinic	...	...	...	...	6
Observation	...	...	...	...	44
X-ray	...	...	...	...	9
Treatment :					
Operative	...	...	...	...	13
Clinic	...	...	...	...	6
Total attendances	...	...	...	...	103

### Ophthalmic Clinics.

The majority of pre-school children dealt with were seen at the squint clinic. The following is a record of the work done on pre-school children during the year :

Number of children dealt with	...	...	...	...	59
New cases	...	...	...	...	35
Refractions	...	...	...	...	36
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	92
Prescriptions given	...	...	...	...	29
Referred for :					
Operative treatment	...	...	...	...	4
Orthoptic treatment	...	...	...	...	4
Total attendances	...	...	...	...	127

### Paediatric Clinic.

Pre-school children referred to the Paediatric Clinic at the Open Air School numbered 11 in 1958. Three of the children were cases of cerebral palsy.

### Orthopaedic Clinic.

The following is a record of the work done on pre-school children during the year at the Orthopaedic Clinic at the Open Air School :

Number of children under treatment	...	...	...	...	95
New cases	...	...	...	...	40
Total attendances	...	...	...	...	184
Referred for X-ray	...	...	...	...	20
Recommended admission to hospital	...	...	...	...	3
Classification of defects dealt with :—					
Congenital deformities	...	...	...	...	33
Other deformities	...	...	...	...	59
Tumour of bone	...	...	...	...	1
Cerebral palsy	...	...	...	...	2

### Care of Illegitimate Children.

The Council continued the general arrangements under this heading during the year and close liaison was maintained with the local moral welfare councils. One mother was cared for at Parkinson House, Preston,



### Care of Premature Infants.

Preston babies born as premature infants in 1958 numbered 150 compared with 169 in the previous year. Of the 150 babies 129 were born in hospital and 21 in domiciliary practice ; 133 survived.

The care of the premature baby in the home continues to rest with the individual midwife under the close supervision of the Superintendent Midwife until the baby attains 6 lbs. in weight. The midwife shows the mother the special methods and care needed in feeding and keeping the baby warm and the mothers prove very capable in following this advice and soon gain confidence in handling their baby. Husbands are particularly helpful in reading thermometers and in keeping an even temperature in the room day and night. Premature baby outfits were lent out in three cases during the year and all the babies concerned survived.

The following table gives the number of premature infants and their survival state up to 28 days after birth.

**Table 14.**  
**Premature Infants Survival State.**

Birth Weight	Died First 24 hours	Died 2nd— 7th day	Died 8th— 28th day	Sur- vived 28 days	Total
<b>Babies born at home and nursed at home—</b>					
Up to 3 lbs. 4 ozs. ... ..	1	—	—	—	1
3 lbs. 5 ozs. to 4 lbs. 6 ozs. ... ..	1	—	—	4	5
4 lbs. 7 ozs. to 4 lbs. 15 ozs. ... ..	—	—	—	4	4
5 lbs. to 5 lbs. 8 ozs. ... ..	—	—	—	10	10
Total ... ..	2	—	—	18	20
<b>Babies born at home and transferred to hospital—</b>					
Up to 3 lbs. 4 ozs. ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
3 lbs. 5 ozs. to 4 lbs. 6 ozs. ... ..	—	—	—	1	1
4 lbs. 7 ozs. to 4 lbs. 15 ozs. ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
5 lbs. to 5 lbs. 8 ozs. ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Total ... ..	—	—	—	1	1
<b>Babies born in hospital—</b>					
Up to 3 lbs. 4 ozs. ... ..	4	1	1	3	9
3 lbs. 5 ozs. to 4 lbs. 6 ozs. ... ..	2	2	2	18	24
4 lbs. 7 ozs. to 4 lbs. 15 ozs. ... ..	—	—	—	30	30
5 lbs. to 5 lbs. 8 ozs. ... ..	2	—	—	56	58
Total ... ..	8	3	3	107	121
<b>Babies born in private maternity homes—</b>					
Up to 3 lbs. 4 ozs. ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
3 lbs. 5 ozs. to 4 lbs. 6 ozs. ... ..	—	—	1	2	3
3 lbs. 7 ozs. to 4 lbs. 15 ozs. ... ..	—	—	—	1	1
5 lbs. to 5 lbs. 8 ozs. ... ..	—	—	—	4	4
Total ... ..	—	—	1	7	8
GRAND TOTALS ... ..	10	3	4	133	150

### Day Nurseries.

A total of 263 places in six day nurseries was provided by the Council until August, when Gordon Street Nursery closed and the total number of places was reduced to 223. The average attendance prior to August was 245, an increase of twenty-three on the previous year, the only infection during this period being an outbreak of chicken-pox in two of the nurseries. After the closure of Gordon Street Nursery the average attendance was reduced by thirty-six. The measles epidemic had materially affected one nursery by the end of the year, and was just beginning in a second. A mild outbreak of mumps and a few cases of scarlet fever also occurred in the latter nursery.

Apart from infection most of the absenteeism appears to have been due to the mothers' being off work either through illness or short-time working, rather than to the illness of the children. Absenteeism always increases during school holidays, when some parents leave the children in the care of older brothers or sisters rather than pay nursery fees.

On two occasions children were admitted for a few hours while their mothers attended court, and another young family was looked after while the mother attended an ante-natal clinic. On two more occasions children were admitted as an emergency for several hours while arrangements were made for their care. A mentally handicapped mother living beside one of the nurseries has been frequently helped by the staff and given confidence in her own ability to cope with her young baby.

A summary of the statistics relating to children in day nurseries is given in the following table.

**Table 15.**  
**Summary of Statistics, 1958.**

	Eldon St.	Fish- wick	Gordon St.	Harting- ton Rd.	lsher- wood St.	Ribble- ton Ave.	Total
Attendances ... ..	10,325	8,472	6,284	11,038	11,822	8,688	56,629
New children admitted...	27	56	31	56	43	36	249
Children left ... ..	31	49	74	48	48	36	286
On Register—							
January 1st ... ..	48	36	42	47	60	44	277
December 31st ...	44	41	—	55	55	42	237
On Waiting List—							
January 1st ... ..	58	2	72	53	37	14	236
December 31st ...	85	40	—	48	43	30	246
INFECTION :							
Measles ... ..	22	5	—	10	—	—	37
Rubella ... ..	—	1	2	—	—	—	3
Chicken Pox ... ..	—	—	20	—	28	—	48
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mumps ... ..	—	—	—	16	—	—	16
Dysentery ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—	1	7	2	1	11
Gastro-Enteritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hepatitis ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	1



Children on the register of the nurseries on social grounds numbered eighty-one at the end of the year, an increase of twelve over the previous year. Details are given in the following table.

**Table 16.**  
**Children on the register of day nurseries on Social Grounds at the end of 1958.**

Parents separated or divorced	...	...	18
Mother widow	...	...	2
Father widower	...	...	3
Mother unmarried	...	...	20
Mother in hospital or ill	...	...	10
Father in hospital	...	...	1
Father in prison	...	...	3
Father continually unemployed	...	...	3
Poor housing conditions	...	...	11
Children with speech defects	...	...	2
Children physically handicapped	...	...	3
Maladjusted children or parents	...	...	5
Total	...	...	81

There were twenty-two students in training for the Certificate of the Nursery Nurses Examination Board at the four nurseries recognised as training centres. Eight students took their final examinations and all were successful in gaining their certificates. The girls come from both grammar and secondary modern schools for the two-year training course. Three days a week are spent doing practical training in the nurseries, and for two days a week they attend Alston Hall Day Continuation College for lectures in both general and vocational subjects. They take part in all the College activities and a nursery student won the prize this year for the "the most helpful student of the year."

Owing to redundancy of staff following the closure of Gordon Street Nursery, it was not possible to absorb those students who completed their training ; but two went to take their general nursing training and the remainder either obtained posts with other authorities, or in a private family, and one went to work as nursery nurse in a maternity department.

### **The Thursday Club.**

The Club, now in its seventh year, had a successful and interesting programme for 1958. It continued to meet on the fourth Thursday in each month at Manchester Road Clinic. Two members have been lost due to removal from the town but one of them who has gone to live in Blackpool still pays an occasional visit.

## 1958 Programme—

January	...	School meals—Miss Kay, Assistant School Meals Organiser.
February	...	Film Strips—"The Work of a Nursery Nurse." "The Head Louse." Miss Sowerby, Superintendent Health Visitor.
March	...	Leyland Paint and Varnish Co.—Mr. Bodill: "Do it yourself in the home."
April	...	Immunisation and Vaccination—Dr. Samuel, Deputy Medical Officer of Health.
May	...	Beetle Drive.
June	...	An outing to the theatre in Blackpool.
August	...	Committee meeting, and films by Miss Bond.
September	...	The work of a Day Nursery—Mrs. Drysdale.
October	...	Demonstration by the Singer Sewing Machine Co.
November	...	Film Strips—"The Work of the Health Visitor."
December	...	Christmas Party.

**II. MIDWIFERY.**

At the end of the year 31 midwives were in practice in the town of whom 15 were employed at the Royal Infirmary, seven at St. Joseph's Hospital and nine, including the supervisor, in municipal domiciliary practice. A private nursing home in the town closed down in July on the retirement of the two midwives who ran it for many years.

The nurses in the domiciliary midwifery service performed 425 deliveries and attended 46 confinements as maternity nurses. The proportion of home confinements rose to 24.62% of the total, the shortage of domiciliary midwives having eased during the year. All who wished were able to be confined at home and some cases were transferred to the domiciliary midwives from Preston Royal Infirmary at the beginning of the year while the Chorley maternity ward was closed.

The hospital staffs and general practitioners gave very helpful co-operation in maintaining an efficient service for expectant mothers.

The use of trilene begun in 1957 as an alternative to gas and air analgesia in childbirth has proved popular. The apparatus is light enough to be carried by the midwife to the confinement and many mothers find the effect of trilene more pleasant than that of gas and air. Pethidine was given to 285 mothers (i.e. 60% of the total), gas and air analgesia to 106 mothers (i.e. 22%) and trilene to 294 cases (i.e. 62%). Some mothers need both pethidine and inhalation analgesia. There is thus a choice of analgesia for all mothers according to the needs of their cases and almost all take advantage of one or other form of relief for their confinement.



During the year 462 accouchement outfits were provided. Medical aid was sought in 15 cases where no doctor had been booked for the confinement. This was 10 fewer than last year, more mothers having booked their doctor as a routine. The hospital flying squad was called out in 3 cases of retained placenta with post-partum haemorrhage : blood transfusion was given and the placenta removed in each case in the home and all three cases made good recovery. There had been no reason to expect any complication in these particular cases. The oxygenaire apparatus was used on three occasions, first for two weeks as an incubator for premature twins, again in an attempt to resuscitate a baby, and the third time for the transfer of a baby to hospital. Three of the four babies survived.

Two scooters, each with two large baskets attached which can hold all the equipment needed for a delivery, have been put into use for two of the midwives and have speeded up their work considerably.

Four courses of mothercraft classes each lasting six to eight weeks were held at Saul Street Clinic on Thursday evenings for mothers expecting their first baby. The programme included :—

Films on "Home Confinement" and "Nutrition in Pregnancy."

Filmstrips on "Analgesia in Childbirth" and "How Baby is Born."

Demonstrations were given on the use of the machines for gas and air or trilene analgesia, on how to bath a baby and on baby's clothing.

A discussion group was held on the "Signs and stages of labour."

The showing of each film or filmstrip and also the demonstrations were followed by group discussion in which the mothers readily joined.

A number of mothers liked to bring either their own mother or their mother-in-law with them to a course because they too were interested. Modern grandmothers seem to like to be up to date !

Table 17 shows figures for the midwifery work carried out in the town since 1948 and table 18 the place of delivery of Preston mothers in 1958.

These figures of deliveries relate only to women normally domiciled in Preston and the hospitals undertook a large amount of obstetrical work for the surrounding areas also.

**Table 17.**  
**Total confinements and distribution of these confinements between hospitals and nursing homes, general practitioners and midwives for ten years since 5th July, 1948, and attendances at Corporation clinics.**

Year	Hospital confinements	Domiciliary confinements	Total confinements	% domiciliary confinements to total	DOMICILIARY CONFINEMENTS				CLINICS			
					MIDWIVES		MATERNITY NURSES		No. of persons who attended	Total No. of attendances at clinics	Average attendance of each person	Ratio of persons attending to total domiciliary confinements
					Number attended	% of total domiciliary confinements	Number attended	% of total domiciliary confinements				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1948 (from July)	829	270	1,099	24.57	172	63.7	98	36.3	222	690	3.11	82%
1949	1,639	574	2,213	25.94	350	61.0	224	39.0	777	2,994	3.85	135%
1950	1,669	487	2,156	22.59	323	66.3	164	33.7	602	2,798	4.53	124%
1951	1,530	454	1,984	22.88	302	66.5	152	33.5	620	3,023	4.88	137%
1952	1,511	508	2,019	25.16	321	63.3	186	36.7	667	3,311	4.97	132%
1953	1,454	548	2,002	27.37	424	77.6	122	22.4	770	3,891	5.05	141%
1954	1,422	487	1,909	25.50	366	75.2	120	24.7	712	3,793	5.16	146%
1955	1,527	350	1,877	19.18	297	84.9	52	14.9	727	3,593	4.94	208%
1956	1,526	373	1,899	19.64	310	83.1	63	16.9	670	3,142	4.69	180%
1957	1,641	391	2,032	19.24	354	90.5	37	9.5	758	3,451	4.55	194%
1958	1,442	471	1,913	24.62	425	90.2	46	9.8	747	3,981	5.33	158%



**Table 18.**  
**Place of delivery of Preston mothers during 1958.**

Place of confinement	Available beds	No. of Preston deliveries
Domiciliary ... ..	—	471
Sharoe Green Hospital ... ..	51	874
Preston Royal Infirmary ... ..	50	411
St. Joseph's Hospital ... ..	23	128
Maternity homes ... ..	6	21
Other hospitals ... ..	—	7
Others ... ..	—	1
Totals ... ..	130	1,913

### III. HEALTH VISITORS.

At the end of the year there were eighteen trained health visitors on the staff, including the superintendent and her deputy. In addition there was one whole-time tuberculosis visitor and one venereal diseases social worker. Work in relation to schools and immunisation was undertaken by nine clinic nurses. Under the assisted training scheme two students started their course of training in the autumn.

Table 19 gives the number and nature of visits carried out by the health visitors in 1958.

**Table 19.**  
**Domiciliary Health Visiting.**

Number of visits to :	Year 1958
Births (first visit) ... ..	1,804
Births (re-visits) ... ..	9,071
Stillbirths ... ..	37
Children 1—5 years, first visits ... ..	5
re-visits ... ..	14,038
Expectant mothers (first visits) ... ..	231
Expectant mothers (subsequent visits) ... ..	246
Persons suffering from illness, 0—5 years ... ..	36
5—15 years ... ..	73
15+ ... ..	650
Infectious diseases ... ..	718
Special visits ... ..	575
Infant death investigations ... ..	56
Visits to elderly, sick and infirm persons ... ..	574
Tuberculosis domiciliary visits ... ..	1,309
Handicapped persons ... ..	458
Total number of visits ... ..	29,881

As can be seen from the various types of visit mentioned in the table above, the health visitor is visiting members of the community of all ages—from the young infant and school child to the handicapped adult and the old age pensioner.

Apart from their day-to-day work of health education the health visitors spent some time during the year in giving lectures and in showing students of various kinds the different aspects of their work.

Co-operation has been continued in relation to the training of nurses for state registration and two lectures were given to each of five groups of students in the preliminary training school, whilst three lectures to each of three groups were given to final year nurses at Preston Royal Infirmary. These lectures gave an outline of the health services provided in the domiciliary field and in respect of those given to senior nurses there is linked observation visits with the health visiting staff.

A new venture was started in 1958 when six third-year student nurses from Sharoe Green Hospital spent a day each with a health visitor on domiciliary visiting.

The co-operation with the training school for health visitors at Bolton has been continued and a health visitor has given lectures to students on certain aspects of health visiting. In addition, three students attended the department for a period of seven weeks each to receive practical instruction and to undertake visits to hostels, the Training and Social Centre for the Physically Handicapped, the Children Department, a Juvenile Court, the Citizens' Advice Bureau and a Moral Welfare Home. They were also afforded the opportunity of seeing something of the work of the Domestic Help, Mental Health and Blind Welfare Sections of the Health Department.

## **Observation Visits.**

### **(a) Schools.**

During the year pupils from two schools visited and observed the work undertaken in certain sections of the department.

#### **(i) ASHTON SECONDARY MODERN.**

Fifteen pupils each spent a half day in three of the Child Welfare Centres—Walton's Parade, Tulketh Road and Saul Street.

#### **(ii) THE PARK SCHOOL.**

Twenty-five pupils spent a day each in the day nurseries.

### **(b) Trainee Hospital Welfare Officers.**

For the second year facilities for observation were provided to Trainee Hospital Welfare Officers from the Department of Social Administration, University of Manchester. This year two trainees attended and each spent four days within the department. During that time they saw something of the domiciliary work of the health visitor and the services relating to blind persons and the mentally handicapped.



### Lectures Attended.

(i) Two members of the health visiting staff attended the annual two-day refresher course at the Health Department, Manchester.

(ii) The W.V.S. gave their "1 in 5 Talks" relating to the care of the family in nuclear war to twenty-seven members of the staff (i.e. health visitors and clinic nurses) during September and October. The matter dealt with included :—

- (a) The dangers of nuclear war and how to protect your home and family ;
- (b) How you would be cared for and how to try to be independent.

### IV. HOME NURSING.

During the year a staff consisting of a matron, a deputy matron and seventeen district nurses were engaged in home nursing. As will be seen in Table 20 the increased amount of work done in the past few years, as shown by the total number of visits made, was maintained in 1958 with a total of 80,729 visits. The latter figure includes 1,945 attendances at the evening clinic which is held daily at the district nursing centre for the giving of injections, mainly for diabetes. The conditions requiring the greatest number of visits or attendances were diabetes, tuberculosis, heart disease and blood disease. Injections were the main form of treatment given in these cases.

Visits to children under five years of age numbered 400.

Tables 22 and 23 give details of the work done by the district nurses in 1958.

**Table 20.**  
**Summary of the work of the District Nurses.**

	No. of cases at beginning of month	New cases	Terminated				No. of cases at end of month	No. of visits
			Re- covered	Hosp.	Died	Other causes		
January ...	591	221	121	29	47	13	602	7,500
February ...	602	197	133	25	32	21	588	6,671
March ...	588	185	135	16	40	10	572	6,162
April ...	572	139	96	19	19	9	568	6,138
May ...	568	165	104	14	29	9	577	7,665
June ...	577	143	83	23	27	9	578	6,614
July ...	578	164	124	22	28	5	563	6,718
August ...	563	129	78	18	18	10	568	6,112
September ...	568	168	102	23	26	9	576	7,608
October ...	576	145	103	17	21	9	571	6,172
November ...	571	127	65	18	16	7	592	4,668
December ...	592	228	173	35	27	20	565	8,701
Total for year	—	2,011	1,317	259	330	131	—	80,729

**Table 21.**  
**Visits paid by district nurses in each of the past five years.**

Year	First visits.	Total visits
1958	2,011	80,729
1957	2,146	81,980
1956	2,178	74,562
1955	2,189	63,522
1954	3,155	59,559
1953	3,652	64,527
1952	3,110	64,792

Table 22 shows the number of cases of the main conditions dealt with by the nurses during the year, and table 23 the number relating to infectious diseases and complications of pregnancy.

**Table 22.**  
**Conditions dealt with by District Nurses during the year.**

	Number of cases	Number of visits or attendances at clinic
Heart disease ... ..	220	8,023
Cancer ... ..	94	3,191
Cerebral vascular disease..	145	5,816
Blood diseases ... ..	230	7,609
Diabetes ... ..	65	14,032
Tuberculosis ... ..	117	11,087
Other chest diseases ...	239	3,056
Other infectious diseases...	101	951
Post operative cases ...	130	3,608
Fractures ... ..	10	178
Varicose ulcer of leg ...	36	2,006
X-ray preparation ...	97	197
Local infection ... ..	124	894
Constipation ... ..	107	337
Complications of pregnancy ... ..	45	361
All other conditions ...	842	19,383
Total ...	2,602	80,729



**Table 23.**  
**Cases of Infectious Disease and complications of pregnancy**  
**visited during the year by district nurses.**

	Number of Cases	Number of Visits
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	52	530
Tuberculosis ...	117	11,087
Influenza ...	8	40
Scarlet Fever ...	1	6
Tonsillitis ...	40	375
Mastitis ...	12	102
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	8	88
Anaemia ...	6	62
Caesarean Section ...	4	17
Uterine Haemorrhage ...	2	10
Miscarriage and Abortion	6	45
Perineal tear ...	1	6
Nephritis ...	1	10
Septic Spots ...	4	20
Overdue pregnancy ...	1	1
Total ...	263	12,399

## V. AMBULANCE SERVICE.

At the end of the year the ambulance fleet consisted of four short-wheel-based Bedford ambulances, two long-wheel-based Bedford ambulances and four seven-seater Bedford sitting-case vehicles.

The mileage covered by the service during the year was slightly higher than that in 1957 and there was a slight rise in the number of journeys.

There was no change in the number of staff employed.

Twelve journeys involving 169 miles were made for Lancashire County Council and fourteen journeys involving 221 miles for other authorities.

Under the National Health Service (Amendment) Act, 1957, ambulance services can now be made available for reward, and during 1958 one such journey was undertaken involving fifty-five miles.

Table 24 sets out figures of the work done by the ambulance service from 1950 onwards.

**Table 24.****Ambulance Service—Record of journeys made and mileage covered.**

	BOROUGH								
	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
January									
Mileage	7,661	8,944	8,620	10,327	11,029	12,535	12,376	11,520	10,737
Journeys	1,622	1,922	1,970	2,365	2,791	3,198	3,015	2,953	2,921
February									
Mileage	6,848	7,898	9,065	9,188	10,349	10,688	11,763	10,767	10,541
Journeys	1,603	1,719	1,910	2,283	2,688	2,743	2,831	2,724	2,694
March									
Mileage	8,095	8,484	8,820	9,994	11,092	11,925	12,149	10,568	11,040
Journeys	1,904	1,899	1,811	2,492	2,697	2,928	3,035	2,978	2,812
April									
Mileage	7,627	9,359	8,614	9,342	10,272	11,110	11,138	10,812	10,498
Journeys	1,638	1,958	1,605	2,293	2,474	2,619	2,811	2,803	2,581
May									
Mileage	7,686	8,297	9,007	9,341	11,087	11,807	10,640	11,903	10,692
Journeys	1,791	1,887	1,856	2,337	2,932	2,805	2,734	2,948	2,689
June									
Mileage	8,061	9,060	9,171	10,048	11,486	11,403	10,320	11,004	11,854
Journeys	1,731	1,946	1,802	2,543	2,757	2,923	2,717	2,643	2,891
July									
Mileage	8,461	8,988	9,598	9,717	11,792	11,987	10,975	11,576	11,280
Journeys	1,958	1,774	1,819	2,438	2,581	2,589	2,433	2,755	2,702
August									
Mileage	7,765	9,157	9,250	10,325	11,627	12,114	11,103	10,487	11,333
Journeys	1,676	1,625	1,836	2,431	2,789	2,760	2,683	2,534	2,691
September									
Mileage	7,994	9,394	8,764	10,375	11,080	12,440	10,351	11,516	11,978
Journeys	1,498	1,654	1,854	2,471	2,787	2,852	2,679	2,787	3,104
October									
Mileage	8,917	9,059	10,129	11,165	11,471	11,576	12,269	11,420	12,165
Journeys	1,615	1,796	2,323	2,687	2,574	2,704	3,195	2,675	3,219
November									
Mileage	8,427	7,659	9,401	10,873	13,153	10,442	12,603	11,012	10,455
Journeys	1,877	1,784	2,367	2,738	2,963	2,661	2,986	2,775	2,707
December									
Mileage	8,401	8,561	9,751	10,957	12,460	10,914	11,253	10,216	10,555
Journeys	1,781	1,914	2,630	2,714	3,165	2,738	2,698	2,704	2,803
Total Mileage	95,943	104,860	110,190	121,652	136,898	138,941	136,940	132,801	133,128
Journeys	20,694	21,948	23,783	29,792	33,198	33,520	33,817	33,279	33,814



## VI. PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE.

### 1. Tuberculosis.

The general arrangements for prevention, care and after-care in relation to tuberculosis are given on page 69.

### 2. Convalescent Treatment.

During the year twenty-five adults and one child were sent to various convalescent homes. Seven of these patients were physically handicapped, two of them so severely that they were bedfast and the remainder by reason of their handicap were unsuited to go to an ordinary holiday centre. They all greatly appreciated the change of surroundings and the companionship. Ten patients were over sixty-five years of age. Some of these were recommended for convalescence by their general practitioner, so that relatives looking after them could themselves get away for a much needed holiday. In these cases the relatives came back refreshed, and the patients returned with a new appreciation of what their families were doing for them.

Two expectant mothers, both with large families and unable to rest at home, were sent to a special convalescent home. One mother of a "pre-problem family" was sent away with her youngest child, and on her return was fit enough to take a part-time job and contribute to the depleted family finances.

The genuine convalescent recovering from acute illness continued to be in the minority, and this year only three have been referred by general practitioners.

Local voluntary societies have co-operated on two occasions. In one case, help was given in providing a vacancy for an expectant mother at a reduced fee and making arrangements to look after the younger members of her family while she was away. In the second case, pocket money was provided to enable a mother to enjoy her convalescence.

Requests for convalescence were received from hospital almoners, W.V.S., a mental health officer and health visitors as well as from general practitioners, but in each case the patient's own doctor was consulted.

### 3. Domiciliary Meals Service.

Persons suffering from illness or otherwise infirm continued to be able to receive a hot mid-day meal delivered to them in their home under the domiciliary meals service. Table 25 shows the scope of the service during 1958.

**Table 25.**  
**Invalids' and Infirm Persons' Meal Service.**

Number of persons receiving meals on 1.1.58	Number of new recipients during year	Number of persons ceasing to have meals during year	Number of persons remaining at 31.12.58	Total Number of meals served during year
162	190	203	149	16,530

#### **4. Night Attendant Service.**

This service was continued during 1958 under the supervision of the Home Help Organiser. It is run on similar lines to the home help service and is designed to help relatives and friends of invalids who cannot be left on their own with safety.

During the year 78 cases were assisted and at the end of the year there were six night attendants employed.

#### **5. Provision of Nursing Equipment and Apparatus.**

General nursing equipment and apparatus are provided by the St. John Ambulance Association which has a well-stocked nursing equipment section available to everyone in the town.

This service has been supplemented directly by the Corporation in the provision of various items of equipment. Many elderly chronic sick patients are nursed at home by relatives with the help of the domiciliary nursing services. In certain cases, particularly where the patients are incontinent, the supply of linen available in the home has to be supplemented. In a few instances it has been found necessary to loan a single bed, usually to facilitate the nursing of a patient in a ground-floor room. The following equipment was loaned during the year :—

- 3 beds and mattresses.
- 33 sheets.
- 39 draw sheets.
- 10 pillow cases.
- 5 pillows.
- 6 blankets.
- 9 nightgowns.
- 2 night-shirts.
- 3 rubber sheets.

#### **6. Laundry Service.**

From time to time circumstances arise whereby a patient ill at home is unable to arrange for laundering, either by relatives or neighbours or through a commercial laundry, of the bed and personal linen, and facilities are provided at the Corporation laundry for dealing with such linen. The need is small in extent and is most commonly met with in the case of elderly people living alone where linen has not only to be lent but also laundered.

#### **7. Health Education.**

The department's activities in this sphere are being steadily developed and a comprehensive health education programme was maintained during the year. The purchase of a 16 mm. cine-projector has provided a valuable aid and has stimulated greater interest in health topics amongst mothers at welfare centres. A variety of films were shown at welfare centres and to various voluntary organisations. These included :—

“A Tooth in Time” (Dental Hygiene), “His Fighting Chance” (Polio-myelitis), “Know your Baby” (Mothercraft), “Playing with Fire” (Home Safety),



"The Home Confinement," "Nutrition in Pregnancy," "Defence against Polio." Valuable use was made of the projector at a series of monthly meetings of health visitors.

Displays on various health subjects were shown in the display window in Lancaster Road and these were subsequently shown in the showcase at Saul Street clinic, and in the newly-acquired display cases at Tulketh Road and Cuttle Street Clinics. Subjects chosen for display included "Smoking and Lung Cancer," "Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation," "Home Safety," "Food Hygiene," "The House-fly," "Holiday Accidents" and "Coughs and Sneezes."

Where possible the displays were also shown at the various other clinics.

Much publicity was given to poliomyelitis vaccination and notices urging those eligible to take advantage of the offer of vaccination appeared in welfare centres, numerous public buildings, on buses and bus shelters and in the local press.

The national "Guard that Fire" campaign in November was actively supported and an exhibition on the theme was opened by the Mayor in the foyer of a local cinema. The Fire and Education Departments, the North Western Electricity and Gas Boards and various voluntary organisations gave valuable assistance in distributing posters and leaflets to shops, public houses, schools, clubs, church halls and various offices. Small posters were displayed on buses and various public vehicles. Two-minute films were shown in most of the local cinemas in support of the campaign.

## 8. Problem Families.

The co-ordinating committee continued its regular review of certain "problem families" during the year. The numbers dealt with were as follows :—

Number of families on list for regular review at the beginning of	
the year ... ..	20
Number of families ceasing to have regular review during 1958	4
Number added during 1958 to list for regular review ...	12
Number of families on list for regular review at the end of the	
year ... ..	28

Of the four families removed from the list for regular review during the year, two left the district, one was largely a problem of school attendance and the last had improved sufficiently as to be no longer a "problem family."

The twelve families added to the list were made up as follows :—

(i) A family where the mother was constantly leaving home and the father was seriously ill, the five children being neglected. The father died several months after the family began to be reviewed. The mother left home permanently and her whereabouts were unknown, and the children were taken into care.

(ii) A family where the mother is dead, the father is mentally backward and one of the children is mentally defective whilst another is deaf. The house was continually filthy.

(iii) A family in which the parents were neglecting their children and were eventually sent to prison on that account and the children taken into care.

(iv) A family where the mother has disseminated sclerosis but the father refuses help in the home.

(v) This family was the one later removed from the list as the problem was one of school attendance and mental illness in the mother.

(vi) and (vii) Two related families living together in which one father was in prison and the other chronically unemployed. Home conditions were very poor and the children neglected.

(viii) A family where the mother was separated from her husband and was continually leaving the children uncared for at home.

(ix) A family where the mother had cancer but refused hospital treatment although bedridden. There was no father and the children had to fend for themselves. The mother finally agreed to go into hospital and the children were taken into care.

(x) A family where the father was mentally unstable. The mother had had mental treatment in hospital and the children were neglected.

(xi) A family where the father was having psychiatric treatment and both parents taken before the court for neglect of the four children.

(xii) A family where both parents were in need of psychiatric treatment, the father was unemployed and rent arrears had begun to accumulate.

Once again the general picture during the year was of improvement in some families, a regression in others, and no material change in the rest. At least the work of members of the committee did promote what improvement there was and prevent further social deterioration in some of the families.

## **9. Physically Handicapped.**

During the year the health visitors paid 458 visits to the physically handicapped, and the help given included the following :—

- (i) 8 patients sent for convalescence.
- (ii) 4 patients were provided with Tripod walking-sticks.
- (iii) 1 patient was provided with a Bonaped walk aid.
- (iv) 1 patient was provided with a Lawson Tait bed.

All these aids are on loan to the patient and remain the property of the Corporation. All the patients who received tripods were suffering from hemiplegia following a stroke. The patient supplied with the Bonaped was suffering from disseminated sclerosis and with this aid she is able to get about the house and do quite a lot of her housework. She can also get about outside and finds the aid very useful when attending the concerts for the physically handicapped at the Handicapped Persons' Social Centre. The patient to whom the Lawson Tait bed was loaned has severe rheumatoid arthritis. She is a heavy woman and nursing at home in an ordinary bed was very difficult. Her relatives did not wish her to be admitted to a bed in a chronic sick hospital and so assistance was given in order to make the home nursing easier.



### 10. Cerebral Palsy.

Cerebral palsy varies greatly in severity from one case to another, and many of the less afflicted cases are able to carry on their activity without help or supervision. Some of the more severe adult cases who are disabled and who may need help in various ways are registered in the welfare services section and many of the children affected are known through the school health service.

The cases known to the staff are recorded in the following table.

<b>Table 26.</b> <b>No. of known cases of cerebral palsy and epilepsy.</b>						
Ages	Cerebral palsy			Epilepsy		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
—5     ...     ...	8	1	9	—	—	—
5+     ...     ...	8	6	14	4	6	10
10+     ...     ...	10	6	16	5	7	12
15+     ...     ...	5	6	11	10	8	18
20+     ...     ...	11	6	17	12	6	18
30+     ...     ...	6	1	7	3	6	9
40+     ...     ...	3	2	5	2	7	9
50+     ...     ...	4	—	4	2	4	6
60+     ...     ...	—	1	1	—	1	1
70+     ...     ...	—	2	2	—	2	2
Total     ...	55	31	86	38	47	85

Voluntary registration of any condition depends for its success on the apparent benefit to be obtained by the persons invited to co-operate. In the case of children of school age and under, registration is fairly complete, for not only are the cases ascertained at routine clinical examinations, but diagnosis, supervision and care are all available through the orthopaedic and paediatric clinic facilities and the special cerebral palsy unit at the Open Air School at which, last year, twelve cases were in attendance at the end of the year. Since the orthopaedic and paediatric consultants hold clinics at the school and are regularly in consultation the care of these cases, medical, social and educational, is fully co-ordinated.

In the case of adults a small number of cases of the more severe type have been registered through the welfare services section. Occupational therapy in the home is provided for cases whose spatial movements are severely restricted and one man is doing handicrafts at home, whilst two weekly day sessions are held at the social centre for persons suffering from crippling defects. Six men and three women were attending at the close of the year.

Close co-operation exists with the youth employment officer and the disablement rehabilitation officers of the Ministry of Labour both as to training for industry and placement. Ten men are employed in open industry, one in

sheltered employment and two undertake casual work on their own account. Two women are engaged in open industry. One woman is engaged in gold thread embroidery work in her own home for a local firm, and one is undertaking embroidery work on her own account.

### **11. Epilepsy.**

Epilepsy is another condition which varies considerably in severity from case to case. Records are kept in register form only of the more severe types in which some form of care or regular supervision is required. 85 cases were on the register at the end of the year.

Of the 23 children of school age affected four are in special residential schools and five attend the Open Air School. Three also suffer from mental deficiency of such a degree as to bring them within the Mental Deficiency Acts.

Amongst the adult population epilepsy comes to notice as a rule only when assistance is sought to overcome some social need. There is a difficulty from time to time in getting residential accommodation as a matter of urgency though eventually cases have all been placed.

Two men are in epileptic colonies, and seven men also suffering from mental deficiency are in mental deficiency institutions. Six women are in colonies and five in mental deficiency institutions.

Contact is maintained with the Youth Employment Officer in respect of juvenile epileptics and advice given on the most suitable forms of employment.

Six men and four women are employed in open industry. One man is employed in a sheltered workshop and two women do casual work. One man and two women attend the social centre for handicraft training.

Visitation, where it is not declined, is undertaken regularly by the district health visitor.

## **VII. DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.**

This service is supervised by a domestic help organiser and the staff consists of seventy-five part-time home helps. The aim of the service is to give help in the home where circumstances make it difficult or impossible for the family to carry on without assistance. Priority is given to maternity cases, elderly infirm and chronic sick, and cases of sudden incapacitating illness in the home.

Each month, on the average, 575 cases were assisted in this way. The amount of time given to each case varies from three to eight hours a day.

The provision offered by the domestic help service, with that of the night attendant service and the meals and laundry services, helps materially towards keeping the infirm at home and leaving beds in hospitals and institutions free for other more needy cases.

Each application for aid is investigated, an assessment of time required is made, the degree of priority determined and the charge to be paid fixed. The charge is at present 3s. 0d. per hour and reduced payments in accordance with a prescribed scale may be demanded.



Wherever possible, home helps are used to undertake cases best suited to their own ability and temperament.

**Table 27.**  
**Domestic Help Service.**

1958	Existing	New	Terminated	No. being assisted at the end of the month
January ... ..	573	40	42	571
February ... ..	571	37	28	580
March ... ..	580	39	38	581
April ... ..	581	26	32	575
May ... ..	575	15	15	575
June ... ..	575	21	23	573
July ... ..	573	24	24	573
August ... ..	573	8	10	571
September ... ..	571	22	21	572
October ... ..	572	22	17	577
November ... ..	577	19	17	579
December ... ..	579	30	29	580

## VIII. MENTAL HEALTH.

### 1. Administration.

There was one change of staff at the Occupation Centre where the Trainee Assistant Supervisor resigned and another trainee was appointed and commenced duty in May.

One of the duly authorised officers completed the refresher course held at Leeds arranged by the National Association for Mental Health and the Extra-Mural Department of Leeds University and another commenced a similar refresher course during the year.

A member of the occupation centre staff, an assistant supervisor, commenced the full-time course of training held at Manchester by the National Association for Mental Health in August, 1958.

The mental health staff frequently attended "Group Therapy" sessions during the year which are held at Sharoe Green Hospital under the Consultant Psychiatrist. The out-patient clinics at Preston Royal Infirmary and Sharoe Green Hospital have been attended regularly during the year for case conferences.

### 2. Account of work undertaken in the community.

#### Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts.

Notifications were dealt with during the year as follows :—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Three-day Orders ... ..	5	1
Fourteen-day Orders ... ..	61	56
Summary Reception Orders ...	8	13
	<hr/> 74	<hr/> 70

Of the 123 cases admitted to hospital under the three- and fourteen-day orders, sixteen males and thirteen females were subsequently detained in hospital under Summary Reception Orders, twenty-three males and twenty-five females remained in hospital as voluntary patients and two males and two females remained in hospital as temporary patients under Section 5 of the Mental Treatment Act.

In addition to the above, under the Mental Treatment Act, 1930, 72 males and 107 females were admitted to hospital as voluntary patients.

At the request of the medical superintendents of mental hospitals 105 visits were made and reports given on home conditions and family histories.

During the year 64 males and 93 females discharged from hospital were supervised by the mental health staff by arrangement with the general practitioners and the patients ; also 37 males and 81 females were visited at the request of the consultant psychiatrist or the general practitioner, 1,185 visits being made for this purpose. Altogether 435 office interviews took place with patients and relatives in connection with mental illness.

### **Personal Help Service.**

With the idea of trying to reach and help those with mental illness at an early stage, a "personal help service" was started in August after consultation with the consultant psychiatrist.

Anyone with worries or troubles is invited to come along to Saul Street on a Thursday afternoon and discuss them with one of the mental health workers.

Publicity in the form of posters and leaflets was used to bring the service to the notice of the public and all the general practitioners were circularised about it. Since its inception, thirty-five interviews have taken place.

The disposal of the cases seen was as follows :—

Advice given at interview	...	...	...	12
Advised to seek legal advice	...	...	...	9
Referred to general practitioner	...	...	...	5
„ „ welfare section	...	...	...	1
„ „ home help service	...	...	...	1
„ „ children's department	...	...	...	1
„ „ health visitors	...	...	...	2
„ „ employment exchange	...	...	...	2
„ „ mental health department of another				
local authority	...	...	...	1
„ „ N.S.P.C.C.	...	...	...	1
				<hr/>
				35
				<hr/>

Of those referred to their general practitioner, four were ultimately seen by the Consultant Psychiatrist at his out-patient clinic.



### **Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-1938.**

New cases to the extent of six males and seven females were reported during the year.

The number of defectives on the authority's register at the end of the year was 496, as follows :—

		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Voluntary Supervision ...	...	18	29
Statutory Supervision ...	...	151	125
In hospitals ...	...	104	69
		<hr/> 273	<hr/> 223

### **Domiciliary Care of Mental Defectives.**

Altogether 497 visits of supervision were made by the mental health staff and 172 office interviews took place in relation to mental defectives, whilst 132 investigations regarding home and social conditions were made and reports submitted to the medical superintendents of mental deficiency hospitals.

During the year temporary hospital care was arranged for five defectives to enable their parents to have a holiday or on account of sickness in the family, four being admitted to hospital and one to a private home.

At the request of the medical superintendents seven defectives on licence from hospitals were supervised by the mental health staff.

During the year eight defectives were admitted to hospital, six males and two females. One male defective was in special hospital accommodation provided by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board but still remains on the waiting list for institutional care.

### **Creche for Mentally Handicapped Children.**

The creche at 2 North Road, continues to provide a welcome rest for two afternoons per week for the mothers of mentally defective children who are unsuitable for the occupation centre.

The creche is open on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons each week between the hours of 1.30 p.m. and 4.0 p.m., and an average of six children have attended each session, transport being provided to and from home by the ambulance service.

Members of the Preston Branch of the National Society for Mentally Handicapped Children staff the creche voluntarily. The mental health staff visit the creche regularly and, in consultation with the honorary secretary of the society, decide on the suitability of children for admission.

It has been agreed that suitable children known to the society from No. 4 Health Division of the Lancashire County Council should be admitted to the creche and three such children are attending at present.

The parents of the children attending have expressed appreciation of the services provided.

### **Youth Club.**

On the 12th December, 1958, a youth club for the mentally handicapped at 2 North Road, was officially opened by the Chairman of the Health Committee.

The premises have been provided by this authority and the Preston Branch of the National Society for Mentally Handicapped Children provide the equipment and staff. Games, dancing, music, woodwork and painting of articles made is arranged for. The Youth Club is open on Friday of each week from 7.0 p.m. to 9.0 p.m.

Members of the occupation centre staff have offered their services in the organising and running of the youth club.

### **Occupation Centre.**

Three students from the Manchester course of training for occupation centre staff organised by the National Association for Mental Health have attended the occupation centre for practical training and two students attended for one week's preliminary observation.

Mrs. Henery, assistant supervisor at the occupation centre, commenced her studies at Manchester in August, 1958, for the above course.

Table 28 sets out the number of cases under instruction at the centre during the year.

Transport to and from the centre is provided for all pupils who are unable to travel alone and a regular attendance rate has been maintained.

A physical education instructor continued to attend the centre for one session each week to give instruction to the senior boys. An average of fifteen boys attend these sessions and an improvement is to be seen in their general deportment and alertness. The boys enjoy the team games, cricket and football, under a male instructor.

In April, 1958, the senior boys commenced to have weekly swimming instruction at the Preston Saul Street Baths. Transport was provided during the winter months. An average of 12 boys attend each session. The instructor reports that all the boys have confidence in the water and several are making considerable progress towards being able to swim without assistance. All the boys are happy in the water and enjoy their visit to the baths.

On October 30th, 1958, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health visited the Occupation Centre.

A successful "Open Night" was held on November 13th, 1958, when a large number of parents, relatives and friends attended and saw an exhibition of the work done by the pupils and heard selections played by the Percussion Band.

The Annual Christmas Party was held on December 19th, 1958, and was attended by the Mayor and Mayoress and members of the Health Committee.



**Table 28.**  
**Pupils in attendance at the Occupation Centre during 1958.**

	No. of cases under instruction on 1.1.58				No. of new cases admitted during the year				No. discharged				No. on Register on 31.12.58			
	Under 16 yrs.		Over 16 yrs.		Under 16 yrs.		Over 16 yrs.		Under 16 yrs.		Over 16 yrs.		Under 16 yrs.		Over 16 yrs.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
County Borough ...	16	10	3	4	4	3	1	—	3	2	—	—	17	10	4	5
County Council ...	6	11	2	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	4	10	3	1
	22	21	5	5	5	3	1	—	4	3	1	—	21	20	7	6

## IX. DOMICILIARY, MEDICAL, PHARMACEUTICAL, DENTAL AND OPHTHALMIC SERVICES.

I am indebted to Mr. Leyland, Clerk to the Preston Executive Council, for the following statement on the medical, pharmaceutical, dental and ophthalmic service administered by the Preston Executive Council :—

### “General Medical Services.

The number of patients registered on doctors' lists at 31st March, 1959, was 118,721. Medical Services were provided by 76 practitioners, 39 of whom were resident in the Borough, and 65 of whom were also included in the Council's Obstetric List for the provision of Maternity Medical Services.

#### DESCRIPTION OF MATERNITY MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDED

Number of Patients receiving complete services ...	517
Number of Patients receiving ante-natal services only ...	210
Number of Patients receiving post-natal services only ...	11
Number of Patients in which doctor attended confinement	322

The total gross payments for General Medical Services for the year was £162,338 0s. 2d. including £4,176 3s. 9d. for Maternity Medical Services.

### Pharmaceutical Services.

On the 31st March, 1959, there were 53 chemists' establishments on the Council's Pharmaceutical List for the supply of medicines and appliances, and 14 contractors for the supply of appliances only. The Council's Rota Service Scheme providing for establishments in different parts of the town to be open for one hour each evening after the normal hour of closing, and one hour each Sunday, Local and Bank Holiday, continued to operate satisfactorily throughout the year.

During the year 29 test prescriptions were taken, 28 of which were satisfactorily dispensed.

Payments made by the Council for the supply of medicines and appliances amounted to £199,446 8s. 5d., including £864 5s. 0d. for Rota Services.

Charges paid by patients towards this part of the Service amounted to £37,770 6s. 11d. 747,180 prescriptions were dispensed by Chemists during the year.

### General Dental Services.

At the end of the year there were 38 Dental Practitioners on the Council's Dental List. The total cost to the Council for the supply of dental appliances, extractions and conservative treatment was £141,687 0s. 0d. The charges paid by patients towards such treatment amounted to £33,629 3s. 5d.

### Supplementary Ophthalmic Services.

At the 31st March, 1959, there were 3 Ophthalmic Medical Practitioners ; 22 firms of Ophthalmic Opticians and 2 firms of Dispensing Opticians on the Council's Ophthalmic List. 22,279 applications for glasses were received during the year, as compared with 22,132 the previous year. Of the number of sight tests provided 17,811 cases were supplied with glasses under the Health Service. Applications for replacement or repair of glasses totalled 1,176, of which 981 were approved.

The total cost to the Council for this branch of the Service was :—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Sight Testing ... ..				16,357	14	8
Supply and Repair of Glasses ...	45,260	12	3			
Less paid by Patients ... ..	21,290	6	7			
				23,970	5	8
				£40,328	0	4"

## X. PATHOLOGICAL AND LABORATORY SERVICE.

There has been close co-operation with the Group Laboratory and with the Public Health Laboratory since its opening in December in the investigation into outbreaks of infectious disease and general epidemiological problems. A record of the work done on behalf of the department is given in the table below :—

<i>No. of Specimens examined</i>					<i>Public Health Department</i>	<i>V.D. Dept.</i>
Bacteriology	...	...	...	...	730	—
Chemistry	...	...	...	...	20	—
Inoculations	...	...	...	...	113	—
Serology	...	...	...	...	—	561
Haematology	...	...	...	...	581	—
Total No. of specimens examined ...					1,444	561

## XI. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951.

### Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No action necessitating the removal of persons in need of care and attention was taken during the course of the year.



## Prevalence and Control of Infectious Disease.

The chief epidemiological features affecting the public health during 1958 were an increased incidence of acute poliomyelitis around the third and fourth quarters of the year, the relative absence of whooping cough in association with the active measures of prevention being undertaken, a sharp rise in scarlet fever after several years of quiescence, the start of the biennial epidemic of measles in November and increasing evidence that infective hepatitis is an endemic disease of higher incidence meriting greater attention than is being given to it generally at present. The manner in which certain microbic diseases can burn themselves out after a period when they have flourished vigorously is also exemplified in the case of dysentery. Dysentery of the sonné variety was rife in the town for a number of years up to 1956, but in the last two years it has been found much less frequently.

Detailed comment on the occurrence of the individual diseases and the measures of prevention taken, including immunisation, appear in the subsequent pages.

Table 29 gives the annual notifications over the past ten years.

**Table 29**  
**Number of notifications grouped according to year and disease.**

DISEASE	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	247	299	382	407	516	156	152	170	59	236
Measles ... ..	564	741	1157	1757	302	1531	759	1220	1142	828
Whooping Cough ... ..	187	432	303	329	246	245	17	274	106	7
Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal) ... ..	101	76	104	57	46	65	53	50	64	50
Acute Encephalitis ... ..	—	4	3	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	3	5	5	2	35	1	11	4	3	16
Meningococcal infection ... ..	3	3	—	6	—	—	1	1	8	3
Typhoid Fever... ..	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	7	—	6	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	28	265	147	86	258	376	189	351	79	71
Food Poisoning ... ..	9	31	36	31	353	48	51	36	24	21
Erysipelas ... ..	25	27	9	5	17	13	7	10	6	3
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary ... ..	107	100	111	114	100	72	61	60	49	43
Tuberculosis, Non-Pulmonary ... ..	22	38	31	20	30	21	13	10	11	8
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	18	15	17	8	33	38	43	50	39	39
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	3	2	5	—	3	2	5	5	8	4
Malaria ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Infective Hepatitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22*	18	59

\* From 17.9.56 when the disease was made notifiable.

Table 30 gives the cases notified during the present year arranged according to disease and age at notification.

**Table 30.**  
**Notifiable Infectious Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis)**  
**occurring during the year, showing age grouping, degree of**  
**hospitalisation and mortality.**

DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED															Cases admitted to hospital	DEATHS
	Under 1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	25—	35—	45—	65 and over	Age unknown	TOTAL			
Scarlet Fever ... ..	1	2	19	20	36	146	10	—	—	—	—	—	2	236	81	—	
Measles ... ..	30	63	101	120	101	400	5	1	—	1	—	—	6	828	1	—	
Whooping Cough ... ..	1	1	2	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	
Acute Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal)	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	4	10	11	19	—	50	9	61	
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	18	4	—	—	2	39	34	—	
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	3	1	—	
Dysentery ... ..	6	3	2	3	1	32	5	6	4	2	1	—	6	71	5	—	
Acute Encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Meningococcal infection ... ..	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	2	2	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	16	16	2	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	
Food Poisoning ... ..	2	—	1	—	1	1	—	2	2	4	5	1	2	21	4	—	
Typhoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Malaria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Infective Hepatitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	3	31	11	3	3	1	4	—	3	59	2	—	
	48	72	128	145	145	615	35	30	32	22	24	20	21	1337	156	63	



### Smallpox.

Smallpox was again absent from the town and from the port. Table 31 shows the extent of vaccination carried out in the town during 1958 and indicates some increase in the number of young children being vaccinated.

<b>Table 31.</b> <b>Vaccination against Smallpox.</b>					
	Under 1 Year.	1—4 Years.	5—14 Years	15 years or over.	Total
Number vaccinated ...	745	65	29	3	842
Number re-vaccinated ...	—	—	—	23	23
Total ... ..	745	65	29	26	865

### Diphtheria.

The immunisation rate against diphtheria continues high and coincidentally diphtheria remains absent from the population.

The arrangements for the giving of prophylactic, almost always combined with whooping cough antigen, have remained unchanged and the general practitioners or at any rate a majority of them actively carry out immunisation amongst children on their lists.

Table 32 shows the progress of primary immunisation since the inception of the scheme and Table 33 sets out the immunity state of the child population at the end of the year regard being had to injections, primary or reinforcing, that have been given only in the preceding five years.

Table 32.  
Number of children receiving a full primary course of diphtheria immunisation

		YEAR OF BIRTH																	
	Annual Births	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	Total		
		2032	1949	2380	2574	2219	2170	2101	1962	1960	1914	1823	1832	1843	1933	1864			
YEAR DIPHtheria IMMUNISATION COMPLETED	1944																		
	1945	368															368		
	1946	289	587														876		
	1947	107	299	878													1284		
	1948	97	121	369	1284	141											2012		
	1949	137	69	93	259	1130	131										1819		
	1950	118	61	27	77	120	885	83									1371		
	1951	35	141	55	30	39	189	893	116								1498		
	1952	14	31	188	85	50	72	168	834	99							1541		
	1953	3	9	41	152	27	30	57	150	692	122						1283		
	1954	—	3	11	33	166	95	64	86	225	929	178					1790		
	1955	4	2	3	9	13	123	84	40	77	179	824	199				1557		
	1956	4	78	5	6	7	20	118	83	40	53	116	818	211			1559		
	1957	—	13	89	6	4	6	13	71	57	27	45	113	796	195		1435		
	1958	—	3	14	92	5	3	8	14	110	101	58	79	139	900	199	1725		
Total		1176	1417	1773	2033	1702	1554	1488	1394	1300	1411	1221	1209	1146	1095	199	20118		



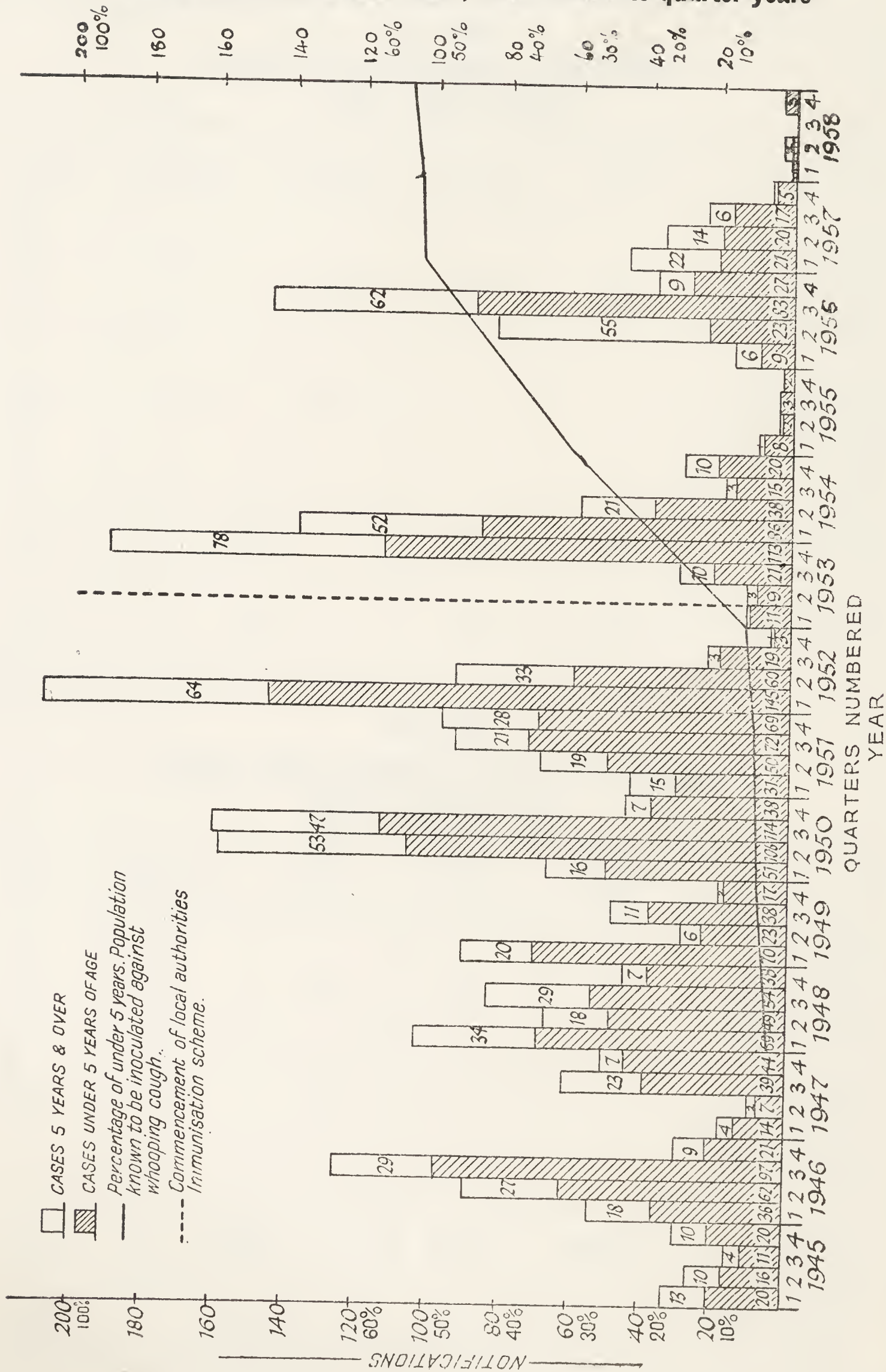
**Table 33.**  
**DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION INDEX**  
**31st December, 1958.**

Age on 31.12.58 (i.e., born in year)	Under 1 1958	1—4 1954-1957	5—9 1949-1953	10—14 1944-1948	Under 15 Total
A. Number of children whose last course was completed in the period 1954-58.	223	4,609	6,158	6,139	17,129
B. Number of children whose last course was completed in the period 1953 or earlier.	—	—	1,988	3,814	5,802
C. Estimated mid-year child population.	1,860	6,840	16,900		25,600
Immunity Index 100 A/C.	11.99	67.38	72.76		66.91

**Table 34.**  
**WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION INDEX**  
**31st December, 1958.**

Age on 31.12.58 (i.e., born in year)	Under 1 1958	1—4 1954-1957	5—9 1949-1953	10—14 1944-1948	Under 15 Total
A. Number of children whose last course was completed in the period 1954-58.	221	4,458	3,437	224	8,340
B. Number of children whose last course was completed in the period 1953 or earlier.	—	—	764	334	1,098
C. Estimated mid-year child population.	1,860	6,840	16,900		25,600
Immunity Index 100 A/C.	11.88	65.18	21.66		32.58

# Whooping Cough Notifications, subdivided into quarter years





## Measles.

The town was more or less free from measles until November when the expected epidemic appeared with its usual vigour. Of the 828 cases notified there occurred 743 in the last quarter of 1958, but for the two months preceding the eruption sporadic cases were occurring each week in various parts of the town like an enemy probing the defensive front in the hunt for weak spots through which the main attack could burst.

No death from the disease was reported.

## Whooping Cough.

Immunisation against whooping cough was continued actively throughout the year when 1,541 children received a full primary course. This is the highest number immunised in a single year since mass immunisation was started and reflects credit on the staff, medical, nursing and clerical alike for their efforts to keep up the attack against the disease. In addition some 917 children received reinforcing injections, usually at five or six years of age. 53.79 per cent of the child population under five years has now been immunised and taking into account children immunised but unregistered by general practitioners probably a figure of about 60 per cent has been achieved.

Table 35 showing the whooping cough immunisation index is designed on the same principles appertaining to the construction of the diphtheria immunisation index.

Coincidentally only seven cases of whooping cough occurred during the year, by far and away the lowest number ever recorded. Five of these cases were under five years of age and two of these had been immunised of whom one, immunised four years earlier, had symptoms only of a running nose and cough, whilst a younger sister was in the throes of a clear attack of whooping cough.

It will be seen from the accompanying histogram that the peak of the last epidemic occurred during the third quarter of 1956 and the question waiting to be answered is whether the mass immunity is now high enough to stem the next wave of infection. It was brought out in last year's report that, before immunisation, epidemic periodicity was of the order of 18-21 months but that between the last two epidemics, when immunisation was being practised the inter epidemic peak phase lasted thirty-three months. Some twenty-seven months had elapsed between the peak of the last epidemic in 1956 and the end of 1958. Will there be another epidemic this year and if so what will be its magnitude? The answer of course depends on the relationship between the virulence of the invading organisms and the herd immunity. Herd immunity should be higher than it was at the beginning of the last epidemic in 1956 because more children have been immunised and with reinforcing doses being given at five years of age now artificially acquired mass immunity is reasonably high up to the age of seven years. On the other hand if our experience with the epidemiology of diphtheria is a guide, and so far in Preston the pattern of whooping cough epidemiology is following fairly closely that of diphtheria, then it is unlikely that an immunity rate of 55-60% in the age groups at greatest risk is high enough completely to repel the invader and a moderate-sized outbreak could still occur.

Table 35.  
Whooping Cough Immunisation.

Number of Children receiving a full primary course of immunisation.

Annual Births		YEAR OF BIRTH																1958	Total
		1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958			
1945	1																	1	
1946	1		2	1														4	
1947	38		73	77	10													198	
1948	5		19	35	46	4												109	
1949			5	20	76	66	13											180	
1950	1		4	5	16	27	54	15										122	
1951			1		3	21	53	87	22									187	
1952					8	8	17	62	101	45								244	
1953	1		3	1	11	32	66	121	193	750	131							1309	
1954			2	4	11	28	33	48	85	172	813	173						1369	
1955					1	7	61	32	31	47	126	773	187					1267	
1956			1	1	—	8	29	69	52	42	53	112	807	210				1384	
1957						1	3	11	43	40	22	44	110	782	192			1248	
1958					1	1	—	6	17	72	88	56	74	136	890	200		1541	
47		110	149	183	203	329	451	544	1168	1233	1158	1178	1128	1082	200	9163			

YEAR WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION COMPLETED



**Table 36.**  
**Whooping Cough — Re-Inforcement Injections**

Year of Injection	YEAR OF BIRTH														Total
	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	
1958	—	—	—	1	5	2	2	11	16	408	465	5	2	—	917
1957	—	—	—	9	3	2	3	9	150	318	6	3	—	—	503
1956	1	2	4	2	2	3	10	132	159	9	1	—	—	—	325
1955	—	14	2	—	2	5	85	131	1	—	—	—	—	—	240

If such an epidemic happens it could well be the last one in Preston if immunisation was pursued vigorously on a nation-wide basis. It is a singular feature of the national immunisation programme however that the glamour girls—diphtheria, tuberculosis, smallpox, and poliomyelitis—get all the publicity and their prophylactics are provided from national resources whereas the Cinderella of the epidemiological world is denied this privilege and the attack is being fought on the standards of the 1930's dependent on the degree of enthusiasm at the periphery and the wisdom of local finance committees in providing the money for propaganda and the life-saving prophylactic. When the available material is clearly meeting the demand put on it, namely, the prevention of whooping cough, why cannot this immunising process be dealt with in the same way as the four others mentioned? If a centrally inspired campaign was initiated whooping cough I am certain could be eliminated from this country just as surely and as rapidly as was diphtheria, and the sum of money involved, in terms of the national exchequer, could be met from the petty cash account.

**Table 37.**  
**Whooping Cough Incidence in Association with Immunisation.**

Year	0—4 Years						5+ Years	
	Popula- tion	No. Immu- nised	Total Cases				Total Cases	
			Unim- munised	Group Attack Rate per 100	Immu- nised	Group Attack Rate per 100	Unim- munised	Immu- nised
1953	9,400	1,730	148	1.9	3	0.17	95	0
1954	9,200	2,818	153	2.4	7	0.25	85	0
1955	8,900	3,649	10	0.2	5	0.14	2	0
1956	8,800	4,441	126	2.9	16	0.36	124	8
1957	8,700	4,535	55	1.3	8	0.17	38	5
1958	8,700	4,679	3	0.07	2	0.04	2	0

### **Poliomyelitis.**

There were 16 cases of acute poliomyelitis during the year. None had been vaccinated against the disease and all were paralytic except one. In all the eight cases where poliomyelitis virus was isolated type 1 virus was involved. There were two deaths from the disease.

Cases were drawn from most parts of the town, with four in the Meadow Street area, three in Fishwick, two in Ribbleson, one in Deepdale, one in the Manchester Road area, two in the Plungington Road area, one near Preston Prison and two in Ashton.

Thirteen out of sixteen cases were 7 years of age or under. One child, in whose case the disease was confirmed virologically, was only three months old at the onset of illness. The oldest patient was a man of 28 years of age.



Paralysis affected mainly the lower limbs in eleven cases, the upper limbs in two cases, and the respiratory muscles in two cases, but several patients had more than one group of muscles affected.

Two of the patients were members of the same family (father and daughter), two were of different families living in the same house, and two children were playmates. One member of each of these pairs fell ill within nine days of the other. Apart from these no connection of one case with another was discovered.

One case occurred in March, and was in a child of seven years of age, who had complete paralysis of both lower limbs in hospital but within a few months recovery was almost complete.

All the other cases started in the period between the beginning of July and the end of October. The first case to occur in July was in a girl of three who had paralysis affecting both arms, both legs and the respiratory muscles, so that she had to have treatment in the "iron lung" for several days. Six months later she still has paresis of both legs and walks unsteadily, and has partial paralysis of both arms.

Two other cases who required treatment in the "iron lung" died. One was a child of three who fell ill at the end of August, and had paralysis of one arm and of the respiratory muscles. The latter showed little improvement and he died three months after the onset of illness. The other death was in a young man of 20 years of age who started with weakness of one arm, developed pharyngeal and respiratory muscle paralysis and in spite of intensive treatment in the iron lung, died four days after the onset of the disease.

The three-month-old baby affected was brought to the infant welfare clinic by the mother because he had stopped kicking his legs, and was admitted at once to hospital. There has been some recovery in both legs but there is still definite paresis three months after onset.

One child, aged  $2\frac{1}{2}$ , was admitted with neck rigidity and pyrexia and then developed a paresis of one side of the face, including the eyelids. Virus culture of a faeces specimen produced type 1 poliomyelitis virus. There was no weakness elsewhere in the body.

The only non-paralytic case was a child of 2 years of age who had signs of meningeal irritation but no definite paresis of any kind. Since her illness she has shown behaviour changes and epileptiform attacks and appears to have been a case of polio-encephalitis.

Only three of the paralytic cases have shown almost complete recovery. The others have all some degree of residual paralysis.

Poliomyelitis vaccination was continued during 1958. At the beginning of the year, vaccination was available to children over six months and under fifteen years of age, expectant mothers, general practitioners and their families and ambulance staff and their families. In September the offer of vaccination was extended to young people between the ages of fifteen and twenty-five and to hospital staff who come into contact with patients, to medical students and to the families of these latter groups. At the same time a booster dose was made

available to children who had already had the primary course of two injections at least seven months previously, and a start was made in giving a third dose to children first vaccinated in 1956, the first year of the scheme.

The vaccination of the 15-25 age group has been encouraged in various ways : (1) An "open session" has been held every Thursday, which is early closing day, in Saul Street Clinic, where those over twenty-one and those under twenty-one who have obtained parental consent can walk in and be vaccinated straightaway without an appointment ; (2) All of the larger factories and business premises in the town were invited to agree to a vaccination team coming to the factory or workplace to vaccinate the young people on the spot, and many such places had been visited by the vaccination team by the end of the year ; (3) All school teachers of this age group were sent a letter offering vaccination ; (4) Posters were displayed in public places and leaflets distributed in factories.

As in the first two years of vaccination, there were no untoward reactions in those vaccinated, and the great majority had no upset of any kind whatever. Both British vaccine and vaccine from Canada and the United States tested in Britain, were in use from the beginning of the year but supplies of both were very limited at first. British vaccine remained in very short supply, far below demand, throughout the year, but supplies of Salk vaccine increased from May onwards, when American vaccine which had not been tested in Britain was made available.

Apart from meeting the needs of those who had expressed a wish to have it, British vaccine would have been most useful because of its availability in 1 ml. containers. The fact that almost all the poliomyelitis vaccine available was in 9 or 10 ml. containers only has discouraged the general practitioners from taking a larger part in the vaccination scheme, since it means that nine or ten patients have to be collected for vaccination on the one day, or vaccine left over thrown away after twenty-four hours.

Table 38 shows the number of persons of different age groups vaccinated against poliomyelitis since 1956.

<p><b>Table 38.</b></p> <p><b>POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION</b></p> <p><b>Numbers in the different groups who have received two injections.</b></p>				
Year of Completion of Vaccination	Children up to 15 years of age	15—25 Age Group	Expectant Mothers	Other Special Groups
1956    ...    ...	347	—	—	—
1957    ...    ...	2,345	—	—	—
1958    ...    ...	9,254	2,432	406	417
Total    ...	11,946	2,432	406	417



**Table 39.**  
**POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION**  
**Children given two injections — numbers according to years of birth.**

		YEAR OF BIRTH															Total up to 15 years of age	
		1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957		1958
Year of Completion of Vaccination	1956	—	—	—	—	29	25	37	43	65	66	49	33	—	—	—	347	
	1957	—	—	3	3	432	341	361	303	198	186	200	172	145	1	—	2,345	
	1958	656	825	804	849	392	401	388	405	424	468	475	528	687	881	882	189	9,254
Total Number Vaccinated ...		656	825	807	852	853	767	786	751	687	720	724	733	832	882	882	189	11,946
Estimated Population ...		1510	1625	1560	1900	2054	1775	1734	1680	1570	1570	1532	1721	1716	1731	1816	858*	26,353
Percentage of Population Vaccinated ...		43.4	50.8	51.7	44.8	41.5	43.7	45.3	44.7	43.7	45.8	47.2	42.5	47.3	50.9	48.5	22.0	45.3

\* Estimated population of children over 6 months of age.

### **Influenza.**

As a continuation of the epidemic in the autumn of 1957 cases of Asian influenza were still occurring in the first quarter of 1958, but by this time the epidemic had died down considerably and sickness rates from school and absences from work were about their seasonal average.

There were no further outbreaks later in the year.

### **Meningococcal Infection.**

There were three cases of meningococcal meningitis during 1958, one in each of the first three quarters of the year. One was a child aged one year, one was aged eight years and the third was a baby of seven months. All made a complete recovery and the source of infection in each case was not discovered.

### **Enteric Fever.**

No case of typhoid fever or paratyphoid fever was notified during the year.

### **Dysentery.**

There were 71 notified cases of dysentery in 1958, compared with 79 in the previous year. All were attributed to the sonné strain of the organism.

The only outbreak of the disease was in June in one of the primary schools in a "pre-fab" housing estate. Altogether thirty-nine children and one teacher had symptoms, which were mainly diarrhoea and abdominal pain, and thirty of the cases were found to be excreting the organism. The outbreak started on 4th to 5th June when fourteen children were affected, and cases continued to occur up to the 26th June. Throughout the outbreak the children involved were from various classes scattered throughout the school, with an age range of 5-9 years. In three instances, family contacts at home were found to have had similar symptoms, and two of these, aged one year and two years respectively, were found to be excreting the organism.

One case of dysentery occurred in Stoneygate Nursery School during the year. None of the other children in the school was affected.

There were no cases of dysentery in Corporation day nurseries during 1958.

### **Gastro-enteritis.**

There were two outbreaks of diarrhoea and vomiting at a secondary modern school on the outskirts of the town—one in January and one in June. In neither was any organism isolated from the cases affected.

The first outbreak in January involved eight children, four teachers and one member of the kitchen staff. All had a school meal on the day that the outbreak began. The onset of illness varied from three hours to two days after that



particular meal, which included braised liver and onions and which was eaten by 420 persons. A specimen of the liver which had been left over produced no pathological organisms.

The second outbreak, in June, affected nineteen children. Abdominal pain, vomiting and diarrhoea were the main symptoms. Those affected were from twelve to fourteen years old and the onset of illness of the various cases was spread over four days. No adults were affected and no bacteriological cause of the outbreak discovered.

An outbreak of diarrhoea and vomiting occurred in Stoneygate Nursery School in August. Altogether eight children were affected with diarrhoea and vomiting as the main symptoms. The cases occurred over a period of five days and the illness lasted for one or two days only. Once again no pathological organism was discovered as the cause of the outbreak. No adult members of the teaching or kitchen staff were involved.

### **Food Poisoning.**

There were 21 notified cases of food poisoning during 1958, compared with 24 in the previous year. There were three small outbreaks. In one, which occurred in September, a man and his wife ate roast lamb sandwiches. Both began to have fever, excessive perspiration, dizziness, vomiting and diarrhoea, shortly afterwards—in his case two hours and in her case four hours after eating the sandwiches. Samples of the roast lamb left over produced a profuse growth of *staphylococcus aureus* but this was reported as a non-pathogenic type.

In the second outbreak, two brothers were affected within twelve hours of each other on the same day with diarrhoea and abdominal pain. The only meal that they had had in common in the few days previously was lunch the day before the onset of illness, when they had boiled beef. *Salmonella typhimurium* was found in the faeces of both men. No food samples were left over for examination.

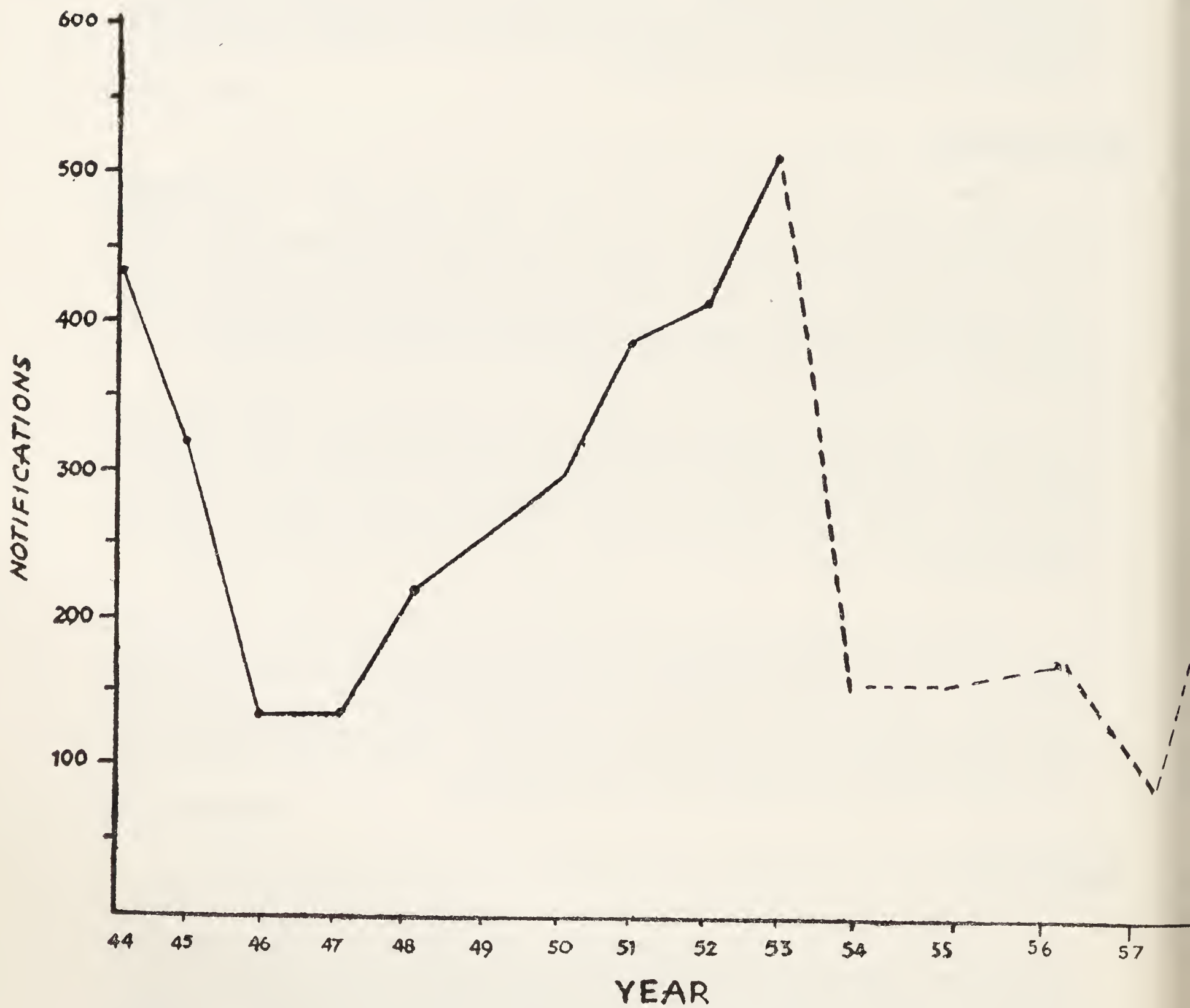
The third outbreak involved three members of a family of nine. A baby of six months was first affected with vomiting and diarrhoea and the next day her sister developed the same symptoms. Three days later the mother began to have diarrhoea. All three were found to have *salmonella typhimurium* in their faeces and the organism was also found in specimens taken from two other children in the family who had apparently had no symptoms. No particular item of food was discovered as the initial cause of this outbreak.

### **Scarlet Fever.**

In recent times scarlet fever has been a mild illness with a high nuisance value. For this latter factor the incidence of this disease is of importance and the graph set out below suggests that after many years of low incidence we are now in the upward phase of a new cycle when scarlet fever is again becoming common. The upward swing took place in the last quarter of the year and in

the earlier phases affected particularly the Brookfield and Tulketh areas. Fortunately there is nothing so far to suggest any increase in the severity of the illness. No death from the disease occurred in 1958, but the prejudice against treating scarlet fever at home is still strong and over one-third of the cases were admitted to hospital.

**INCIDENCE OF SCARLET FEVER, 1944-58.**





### **Infective Hepatitis.**

After about eighteen months of low endemicity infective hepatitis appeared again in epidemic form in the second half of 1958. During the year 59 cases were notified and another 11 cases discovered in the course of investigations. In two cases in the light of subsequent developments the original diagnosis could not be sustained and the incidence of 68 known cases represents 0.6 per 1,000 of the total population. Altogether 58 of these cases occurred in the second half of the year and the high incidence has continued into 1959. One death occurred from hepatic cirrhosis in a man who had developed infective hepatitis in 1957.

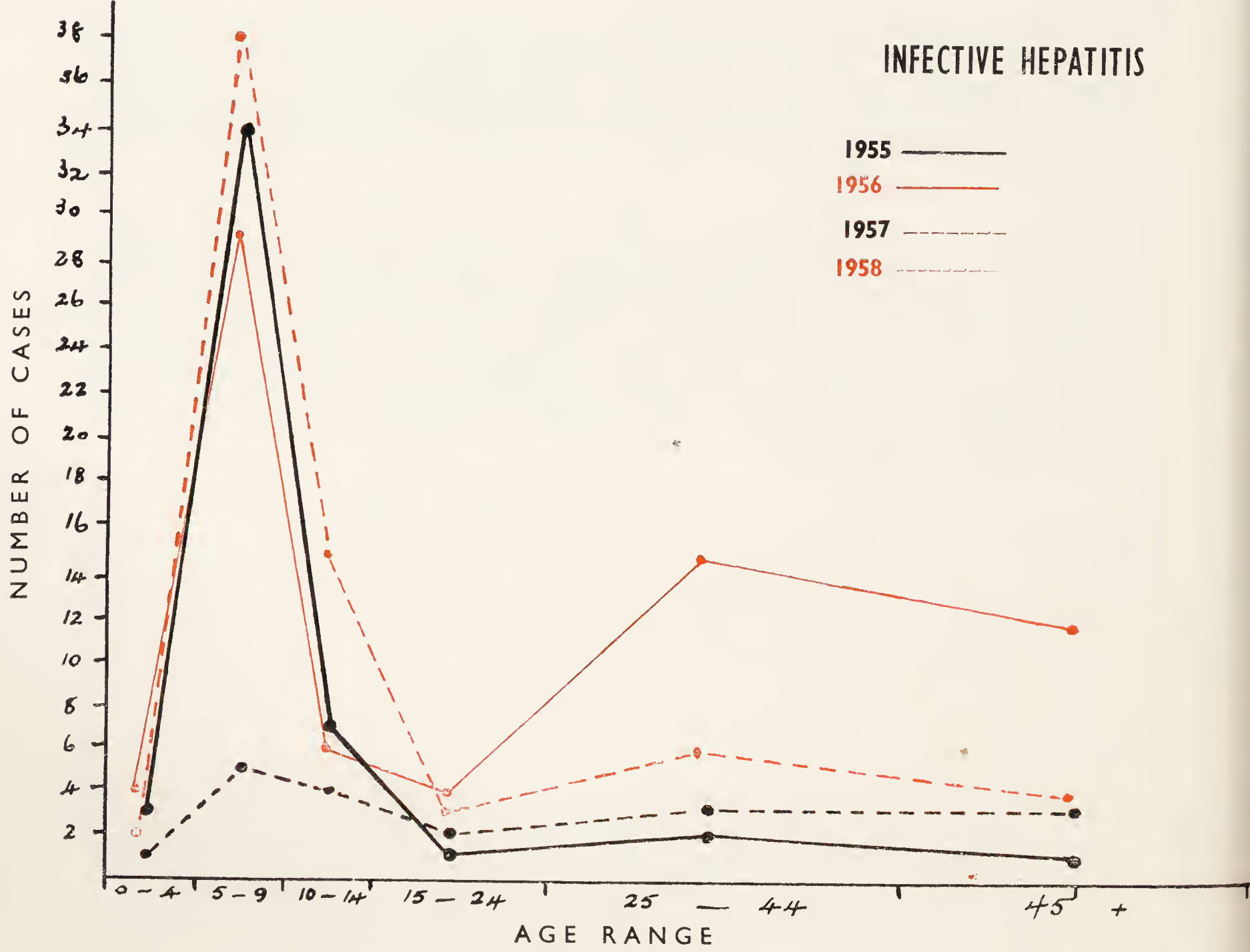
Nearly half the cases (45%) occurred in the area bounded by Blackpool Road, Garstang Road, Moor Lane, Fylde Road and Tulketh Brow containing about 15% of the town population. A high proportion of all cases occurred in the school age group, 38 (56%) within 5-9 years and 15 (22%) within 10-14 years.

Among the 64 cases directly investigated contact within three to six weeks earlier with another case was established in eight instances. Two infants and one nursery assistant from the same nursery school developed the disease. School meals did not appear to be involved and about half the school age cases stated that they did not take school meals. No case occurred amongst food handlers.

Attention was first focussed in 1955 on the occurrence of infective hepatitis in Preston as an endemic disease. The accompanying graph shows the number of known cases in each year arranged according to age. It is generally recognised that epidemic hepatitis is a disease of childhood though its occurrence is by no means limited to that group and indeed some reported outbreaks have shown a preponderance of adult cases. The high incidence in the 5-9 age group in the Preston figures is noteworthy. The seasonable distribution of the disease is shown in the following table.

**Table 40.**  
**Infective Hepatitis.**  
SEASONAL INCIDENCE.

Month					Year			
					1955	1956	1957	1958
January	...	...	...	...	—	6	5	2
February	...	...	...	...	2	—	1	3
March	...	...	...	...	2	7	1	—
April	...	...	...	...	5	8	2	—
May	...	...	...	...	7	7	1	1
June	...	...	...	...	11	10	1	4
July	...	...	...	...	—	3	1	8
August	...	...	...	...	5	3	2	10
September	...	...	...	...	8	7	—	7
October	...	...	...	...	4	9	4	13
November	...	...	...	...	3	9	—	14
December	...	...	...	...	1	1	—	6
					48	70	18	68





**Tuberculosis.**

Formal notification of a diagnosis of tuberculosis was received in respect of fifty-one persons as opposed to sixty last year. Table 41 shows the site affected together with the age group of those involved.

<b>Table 41.</b>														
Age periods	FORMAL NOTIFICATION													
	No. of Primary Notifications of new cases of Tuberculosis													Total All Ages
	0-	1-	2-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	
Respiratory, Males ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	3	7	3	7	1	—	25
Respiratory, Females ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	4	3	4	1	3	1	1	—	18
Non-Respiratory, Males ... ..	—	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	6
Non-Respiratory, Females ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2

In addition to the above notifications there were registered two deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis among men not previously notified. Notification of the disease continues to be lax.

Table 42 gives the number of persons, classified according to sex and site of disease, on the tuberculosis notification register at the end of the year together with the number of cases removed from the register and the reasons therefor.

<b>Table 42. Notification Register.</b>							
	Respiratory			Non-respiratory			Total Cases
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
Number of cases of Tuberculosis remaining on the 31st December, 1958, on the Register of Notifications kept by the Medical Officer of Health ...	403	278	681	94	77	171	852
Number of cases removed from the Register during the year by reason, <i>inter alia</i> , of :—							
1. Withdrawal of notification ... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
2. Recovery from the disease... ..	4	—	4	4	6	10	14
3. Deaths (all causes) ...	15	3	17	1	—	1	18
4. Outward Transfers ...	8	9	17	—	3	3	20
5. Otherwise (Lost sight of, etc.) ... ..	1	3	4	—	—	—	4

**Table 43.**  
**Tuberculosis.**

Population	Year	No. of cases notified		Rates per 1,000 population		No. of Deaths		Rates per 1,000 population	
		Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory
126100	1930	150	97	1.19	.77	100	25	.79	.20
120100	1931	133	84	1.12	.71	82	21	.69	.18
118500	1932	116	65	.98	.55	89	21	.75	.18
117800	1933	96	67	.81	.57	89	10	.76	.08
117490	1934	133	48	1.13	.41	85	14	.72	.12
116200	1935	96	44	.83	.38	70	12	.60	.10
115200	1936	131	44	1.14	.38	68	12	.59	.10
113600	1937	121	49	1.07	.43	77	19	.68	.17
113600	1938	103	44	.91	.39	69	19	.61	.17
112800	1939	95	27	.84	.24	73	15	.65	.13
108500	1940	104	47	.96	.43	63	8	.58	.07
111490	1941	110	43	.99	.39	68	22	.61	.20
110000	1942	133	46	1.21	.42	79	12	.72	.11
109100	1943	138	39	1.26	.36	74	18	.68	.16
108190	1944	129	38	1.19	.35	56	10	.52	.09
108480	1945	114	39	1.05	.36	54	21	.50	.19
114070	1946	134	21	1.17	.18	52	12	.46	.10
116520	1947	103	17	.90	.15	59	5	.51	.04
118130	1948	104	23	.88	.19	66	10	.56	.08
119500	1949	107	22	.90	.18	48	9	.40	.08
120300	1950	86	29	.71	.24	35	7	.29	.06
118100	1951	97	27	.82	.23	41	5	.35	.04
119200	1952	103	19	.86	.16	27	1	.23	.01
118900	1953	82	29	.69	.24	26	1	.22	.01
118400	1954	79	19	.67	.16	22	1	.19	.01
117400	1955	61	13	.52	.11	19	—	.16	—
117200	1956	60	10	.51	.08	11	1	.09	.01
116200	1957	49	11	.42	.09	13	—	.11	—
115100	1958	43	8	.37	.07	11	1	.09	.01



Table 43 shows the notification and death rates for respiratory and non-respiratory tuberculosis since 1930.

### **Prevention of illness, care and after-care as applied to tuberculosis.**

Control and supervision of cases, and B.C.G. vaccination to increase the resistance of those particularly exposed to the disease, were continued as means of limiting the spread of tuberculosis, with its final eradication from this country as the long term aim. These different methods of control are dealt with in more detail in the following paragraphs.

#### **Prevention of Illness.**

Active search amongst the contacts of known cases has been carried out at the chest clinics and 1,282 contacts were examined, of whom 2 were diagnosed as suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis.

Tuberculin tests continued to be performed at toddlers' clinics, using the Heaf test. Out of 1,024 tests carried out during the year, 20 were positive. In thirteen of the positive cases, the children had been given B.C.G. previously. Of the remaining seven cases, one was already known to have had a primary chest lesion; one gave x-ray evidence of an old infection but with no apparent active disease; one was a child of four years who was found to have a tuberculous focus in the left chest for which she was given treatment with isoniazid for six months; one was found to have a chest lesion of doubtful activity; and the remaining three had no clinical or radiological defect. In each case family and other close contacts were investigated at the chest clinic but not one was discovered as a source of the infection.

Of the total visits carried out by health visitors during the year, 6 per cent were in respect of tuberculous households. There were 51 first visits on notification of a case of tuberculosis and 1,258 follow-up visits. Most of this work is done by one health visitor appointed for the purpose, but all the health visitors have to undertake it from time to time, and where there are young children in addition to tuberculous patients in the household, the health visitor for the district supplements the advice given by the tuberculosis visitor.

A health visitor attends at the chest clinic with the chest physicians and 177 attendances were made during the year.

#### **B.C.G. Vaccination.**

B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis was continued during the year. Those vaccinated were thirteen-year-old school children and tuberculin negative contacts of cases of the disease.

Consents for vaccination were received for 946 school children of thirteen years of age. This represents 58.9% of the estimated population of 1,606, and compares with 63.7% consenting in 1957. Altogether 804 children of this age group were vaccinated during the year, but over 100 of these were children who had not been vaccinated the previous year because of illness at the time of the Asian influenza epidemic.

Children vaccinated in February 1958 were given Danish fluid vaccine as previously, but in May and October British freeze-dried vaccine was used. This vaccine produced less local reaction at the site of inoculation, and over 12% of the children concerned had a negative tuberculin reaction at twelve weeks after vaccination compared with about 1% with fluid vaccine. It is understood that the number of viable organisms in each dose of the freeze-dried vaccine has since been increased. The Heaf tuberculin test continued to be used for test purposes.

Detailed figures for B.C.G. vaccination of school children are given in Table 44 below.

In addition to the vaccination carried out on thirteen-year-old school children, 77 tuberculin negative contacts of the disease were vaccinated by the chest physicians.

<b>Table 44.</b> <b>B.C.G. Vaccination of thirteen-year-old school children.</b>					
	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
No. tuberculin tested ... ..	925	1,037	1,039	982	1,071
No. of tuberculin positives ... ..	249	253	286	269	245
Percentage positive reaction to total tuberculin tested ... ..	26.9	24.4	27.5	27.4	22.9
No. of tuberculin negatives ... ..	675	784	753	713	824
No. vaccinated ... ..	675	784	745	705	804
No. of vaccinated who were tuberculin negative at 6-12 weeks after vaccination	4	184	3	7	83

#### Care and After-Care.

The night sanatorium arrangements remained unchanged in 1958. At the beginning of the year two chalets were unoccupied, but these were allotted to two men during the year, one in May and one in July. No patients were discharged and the beds were all occupied at the end of the year. One of the cases was temporarily transferred in October to Egham Rehabilitation Unit for a period of seven weeks. The average length of stay was 269 days.



### Provision of Milk.

The provision of milk, either free or at reduced prices, to tuberculosis patients continued throughout the year and twenty-six persons received such supplies.

### Nursing and Ancillary Equipment.

A full range of equipment for the domiciliary care of the sick is available on loan or otherwise and has been drawn upon as required.

### Treatment of Scabies and Verminous Heads.

Ellen Street and Cuttle Street continue to be used as cleansing centres, mainly for the treatment of scabies and head louse infestation. Scabies is treated with benzyl benzoate emulsion.

Head louse infestation is treated as follows. First a general shampoo with green soft soap is given and the hair combed with a fine-toothed comb. The hair is rubbed dry and an emulsion containing D.D.T. and pyrethrins is applied. This is left on for twenty-four hours and is then washed off at home by the parent using a medicated shampoo. This loosens nits and the fine-toothed comb is used again to try to remove these. A week later the child has a further application of the D.D.T. emulsion at the centre which is again left on for twenty-four hours and then washed off with the medicated shampoo. The application of the emulsion and the washing with the shampoo continues weekly until the child and family contacts are considered clear of infestation.

Table 45 shows figures for the treatment given during 1958.

Table 45.								
	ELLEN STREET				CUTTLE STREET			
	Scabies		Verminous Heads		Scabies		Verminous Heads	
	Cases	Treatments	Cases	Treatments	Cases	Treatments	Cases	Treatments
Men ... ..	4	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Women ... ..	3	5	3	3	—	—	—	—
Boys (under 14) ...	20	37	312	312	—	—	458	458
Girls (under 14) ...	27	53	2262	2262	—	—	2546	2546
TOTAL ...	54	102	2577	2577	—	—	3004	3004

**Venereal Disease.**

The arrangements in relation to the control of venereal disease remain unchanged. The venereal diseases social worker continued to function under the direction of the consultant at the clinic in Preston Royal Infirmary. Altogether 300 follow-up letters were sent out and home visits were paid in seventeen cases.

Gonorrhoea has not shown the fall in incidence over the past ten years that has occurred with syphilis. In 1958 cases of syphilis attending the clinic for the first time numbered sixteen, compared with twenty-five in the previous year and no less than sixty in 1948. New cases of gonorrhoea, on the other hand, totalled ninety in 1958, sixty-two in 1957 and seventy-eight in 1948.

Once again there were no cases of congenital syphilis in an infant.

Routine enquiry continues to be made on all ships by the port health inspector and generally speaking seamen do not hesitate to make enquiries regarding treatment.

Seamen seen at the clinic during the year numbered sixty as opposed to sixty-one in the previous year.



## Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

### 1.—Water.

No change in the arrangements for the supply of water took place during the year. Sampling was continued on the same basis as has applied in recent years and showed the water to be satisfactory in quality.

### 2.—General Sanitary Defects.

The following table shows the work carried out under the public health and housing acts in relation to dwellinghouses during 1958 :—

**Table 46.**  
**Sanitary Improvements effected under the Public Health and Housing Acts.**

No. of premises dealt with	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,330
Chimneys repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	157
Downspouts repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	65
Drains or sewers cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	216
Drains or sewers tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	108
Drains or sewers repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	154
Dust bins provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Fireplaces repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Food storage provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Gutters repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	110
Lighting and ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Nuisances abated (general)	...	...	...	...	...	...	133
Passages or yard surfaces flagged, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Plasterwork repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	137
Premises disinfested or cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Premises treated for rats or mice or rendered rodent proof	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Roofs repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	152
Sinks repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Staircases repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Walls repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Water service pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
W.C. accommodation provided, improved, repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	190
Windows repaired or renewed...	...	...	...	...	...	...	86
Woodwork (general) repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
Other work done	...	...	...	...	...	...	120

A total of 569 informal notices and 253 statutory notices were served under the Public Health Act during the year. The latter are itemised in Table 46.

Financial assistance was given under Section 47 of the Public Health Act in the converting of waste water closets to water closets at ten dwelling houses.

**Table 47.**  
**Summary of Statutory Notices served under Public Health Act, 1936.**

<i>Section</i>		<i>Number served</i>
39	Drainage ... ..	42
45	Closet accommodation ... ..	37
51	Care of flushing apparatus to w.c. ... ..	3
56	Yard paving ... ..	4
58	Dangerous structure ... ..	3
75	Dust bins ... ..	21
92/3	Abatement notices (statutory nuisances) ... ..	143
		253

### **3.—Tents, Vans and Sheds.**

Three sites are occupied by accredited members of the Showmen's Guild.

One renewal of application to station a van on private land in the borough was granted. One new application, refused during 1957, was granted subsequent to the applicant's appeal being upheld in the Borough Magistrates' Court.

Three caravans were temporarily licensed as the occupants were employed by contractors on building and sewer works in the borough.

During the year it was necessary to remind a number of unauthorised caravan dwellers of the provisions of Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and to request removal of the caravans from the unsuitable sites.

### **4.—Common Lodging Houses.**

There are now two common lodging houses in the borough, one premises having ceased to be used as such during the year as a result of its becoming the subject of a Compulsory Purchase Order. 54 visits were paid to common lodging houses by the public health inspectors.

### **5.—Places of Public Entertainment.**

There are 12 cinemas in the area and in 1958 a full sanitary certificate of fitness was issued in respect of 11, one requiring works to be completed before a certificate could be given.

There are three billiards halls and 25 dance halls in the borough. Three of the cinemas hold licences for stage plays and seven other premises are similarly licensed. 111 visits were made to these places of public entertainment.



## 6.—Offensive Trades.

The offensive trades established in the borough include fat and tallow melters, tripe boilers, fell-monger, gut scraper, tanner and leather dressers, soap boilers and rag and bone dealers. Of these premises, the majority have been established for a considerable number of years, seven only being required to make application for periodic renewal of their licence to carry on an offensive trade. Two firms did not apply for renewal as they were ceasing to carry on their business in the borough and in one other case consideration of the application was deferred pending a decision about works required to be carried out. Applications in respect of four premises have been renewed for a period of 12 months. 52 visits were made to offensive trades premises.

## 7.—Disinfection and Disinfestation.

One hundred and ninety-nine van loads of furniture, in respect of 294 families, were removed from old property to new corporation houses. This involved HCN disinfestation in all cases. 333 rooms were sprayed with insecticide to combat various infestations and 14 rooms were treated after the occurrence of infectious disease.

The service is maintained by a staff of four, the establishment being increased by one during the year, and together with the necessary motor transport these men run a general transport pool for all sections of the Health Department.

## 8.—Factories.

There were 230 visits made by the Public Health Inspectors to factories during the year. The following table shows a summary of visits and work done, etc., under the Factories Act.

Table 48. Inspections.				
Premises	No. on the Register	No. of Inspections	No. of written notices	No. of Prosecutions
Non-mechanical factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority... ..	87	42	5	—
Mechanical factories in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	764	173	15	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)...	43	15	1	—
Totals ... ..	894	230	21	—

**Table 49.**  
**Defects.**

Particulars and Section	No. of defects found	No. of defects remedied	No. referred		No. of Prosecutions
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	7	6	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	1	1	1	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)—					
(a) insufficient ...	3	2	1	2	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ...	15	16	2	13	—
(c) not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act...	1	1	1	—	—
Total ...	27	26	5	15	—

### 9.—Outworkers.

Nine workers were notified under Section 110 of the Factories Act, 1937, which requires that the local authority be notified of any outworkers employed in their area.

Nine visits were paid by the District Public Health Inspectors to outworkers, and conditions of work were found to be satisfactory.

### 10.—Rodent Control.

During the year two rodent operators were employed on pest extermination.

The Chief Public Health Inspector attended Lancashire County Consultative Committee and North West Lancashire Representative Committee Meetings as a representative of this Authority. These meetings are organised by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to promote co-operation on rodent control between adjacent authorities and the Ministry.

During the year one test baiting campaign was carried out in the town's sewers. The number of manholes test-baited was 109. Two poison treatments were made, a total of 1,233 manholes being poison baited in all. To facilitate this work men were loaned by the Borough Surveyor, supervision being carried out by the Public Health Inspectors.

The work of the staff is summarised in the following table.



**Table 50.**  
**Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.**

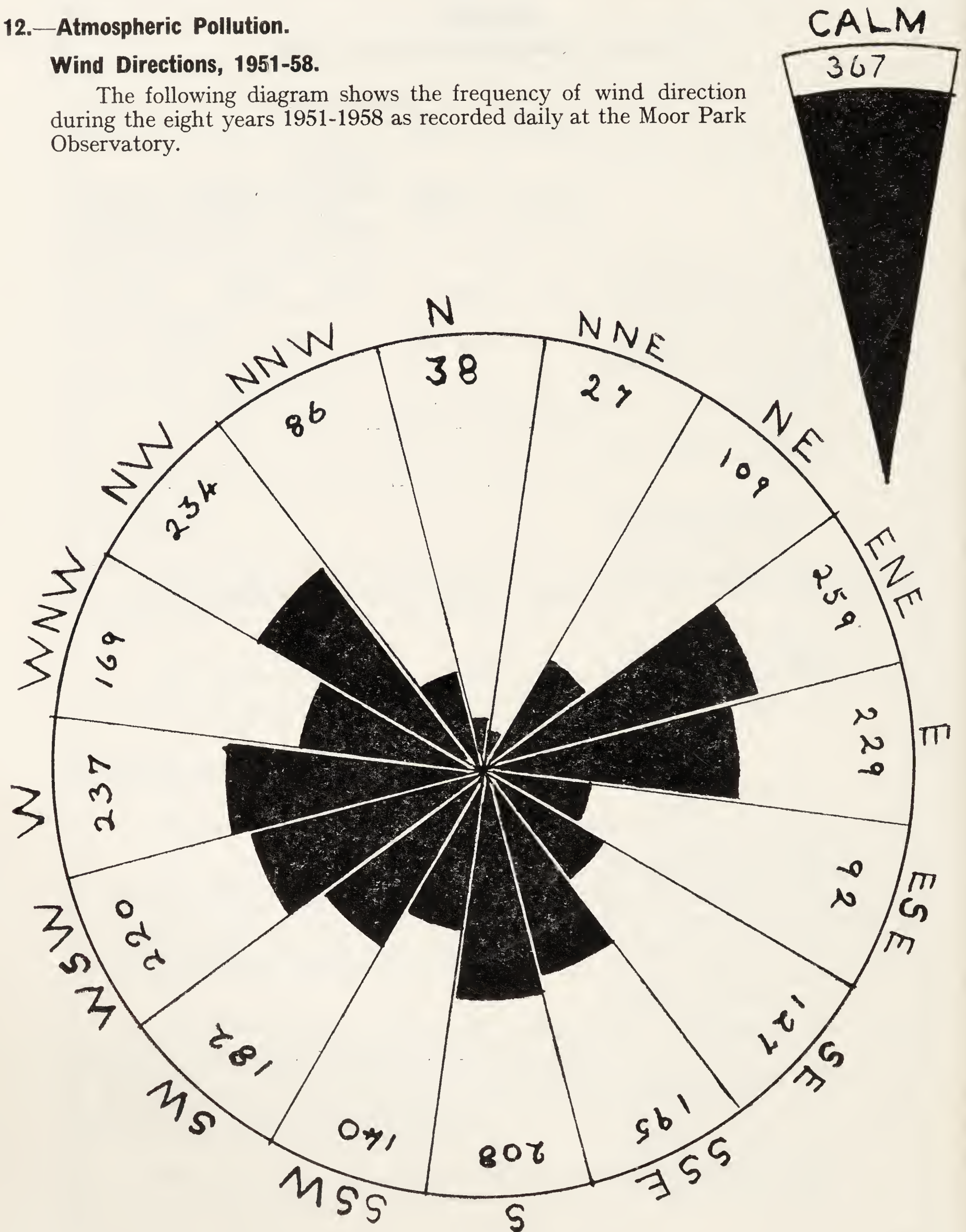
	Type of Property				
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling houses	(3) All other (including Business and Industrial)	(4) Total of (1), (2) and (3)	(5) Agri- cultural
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	125	36,231	7,308	43,664	55
II. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1958 as a result of :					
(a) Notification ...	60	164	73	297	1
(b) Survey under the Act. ...	—	44	2	46	1
(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose)	—	—	—	—	—
III. Total inspections carried out ...	263	1,214	509	1,986	2
IV. Number of properties (under II) found to be infested by :—					
(a) Rats { Major ...	—	—	3	3	—
{ Minor ...	14	93	31	138	—
(b) Mice { Major ...	—	—	—	—	—
{ Minor ...	9	20	21	50	—
V. Number of infested properties (in IV) treated by Local Authority ...	20	73	33	126	—
VI. Total treatments carried out ...	20	73	33	126	—
VII. No. of notices served under Section 4 of the Act :					
(a) Treatment ...	—	—	1	1	—
(b) Structural work (i.e., proofing) ...	—	2	1	3	—
VIII. No of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act. ...	—	—	—	—	—

**11.—Shops.**

Shops Act work is carried out in conjunction with other duties concerning shop property. During the year thirty-nine visits were made specifically in connection with the welfare provisions of the Shops Act.

**12.—Atmospheric Pollution.****Wind Directions, 1951-58.**

The following diagram shows the frequency of wind direction during the eight years 1951-1958 as recorded daily at the Moor Park Observatory.





### **Its Measurement.**

Since 1951 measurement of atmospheric pollution has taken place latterly at four points in the town and in 1958 another collecting station was established at Moor Park Observatory and operated from the beginning of May. The standard deposit gauge and the lead peroxide candle units have been installed there.

The gauge at Chestnuts Sanatorium was cracked by frost during February and the relevant data for that point are therefore calculated on an eleven months basis.

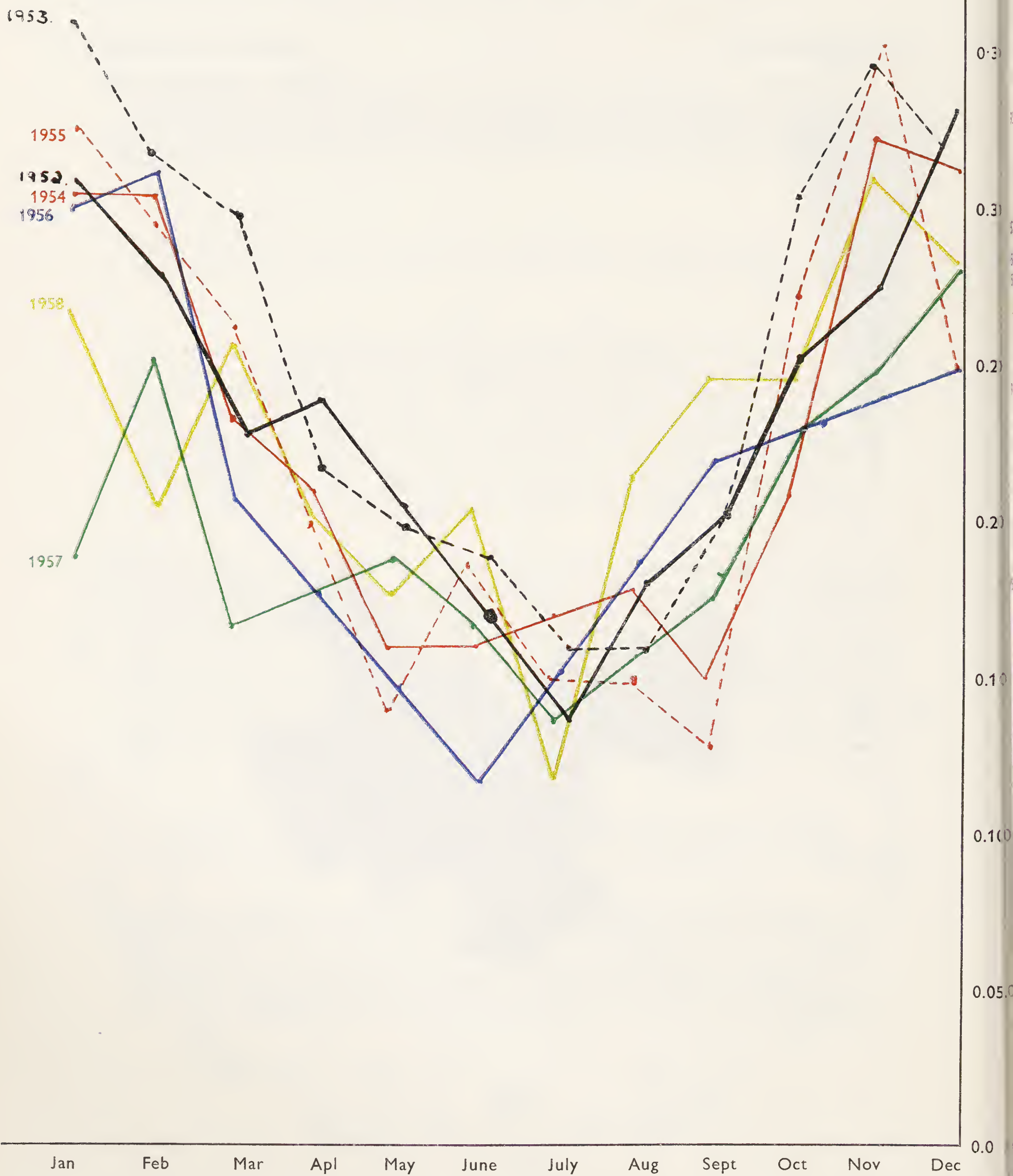
The periods of heaviest deposition of particulate matter occur in cold weather, when space heating is at its greatest, with associated conditions of still air so that the smoke emission is held locally. With these two factors operating simultaneously smog conditions exist. The meteorological condition varies appreciably between one year and another and so variation in the amount of local deposit recorded occurs uncontrolled by man. Total smoke output however is controllable and with increasing control of output there should be over the long term evidence of reduced emission appearing in the records.

The first smokeless zone came into operation on the 1st July, 1956, and the second on 1st November, 1957. Graph I giving the monthly average of smoke concentration over the past seven years as recorded by the volumetric apparatus illustrates the well known phenomenon of the summer dip in pollution when space heating is at a minimum. The areas concerned in smoke control are small, less than 200 acres, relative to the whole town but the graphs for 1957 and 1958 suggest that the winter totals were below maximal limits of earlier years and that higher summer pollution was present as a consequence of space heating needed to combat the cold wet conditions that prevailed during the summer of both years.

Graph II shows for the same period the average daily concentration of sulphur dioxide in parts per million as measured by the volumetric apparatus.

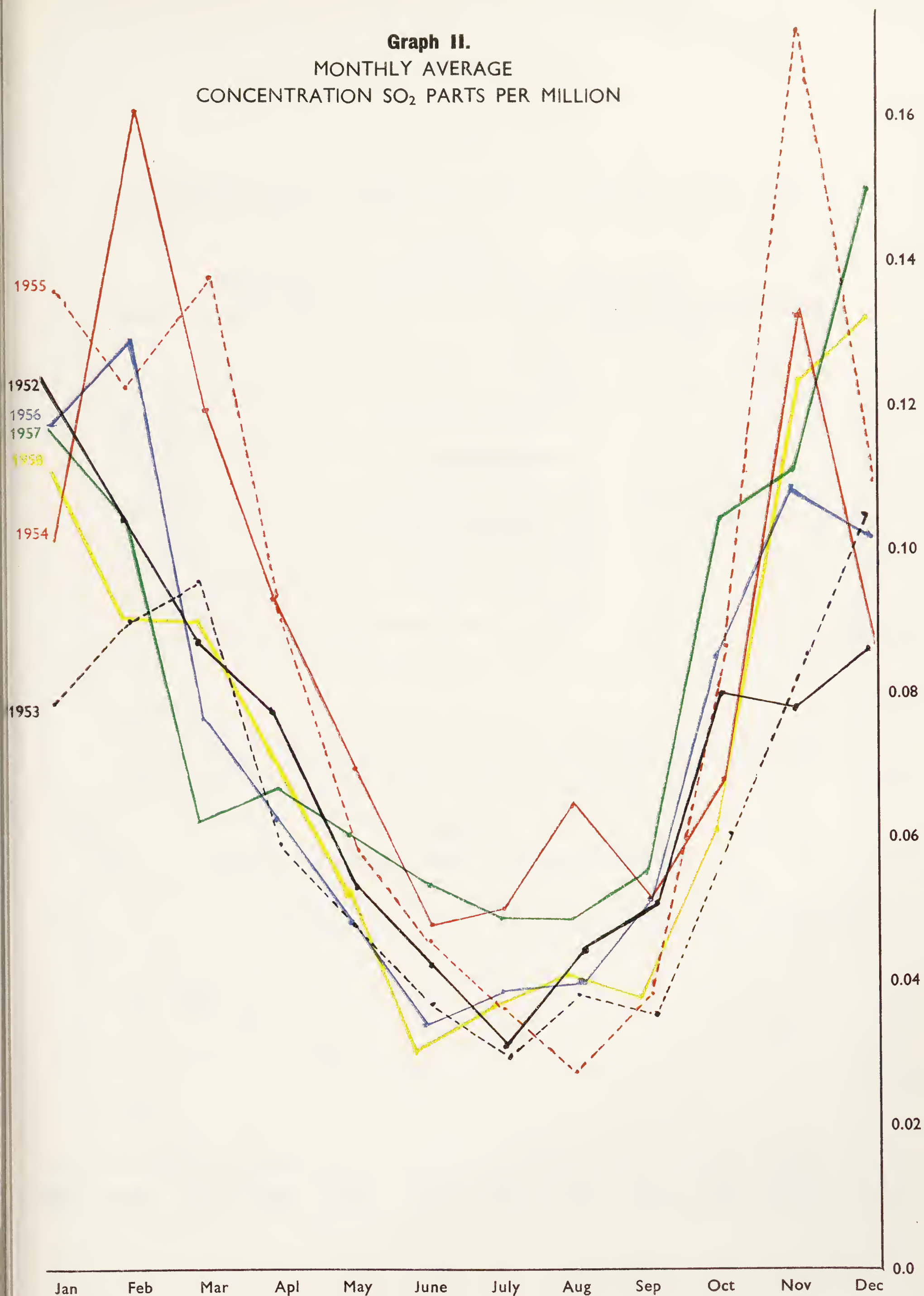
Graph III compares the atmospheric sulphur dioxide in milligrams of sulphur trioxide per day per sq. cms. of lead peroxide for each of the four collecting points in the town and shows that the pollution at the new station at Moor Park, i.e.  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles to the north east of the town centre, is higher than at the other two peripheral stations but lower than that at Preston Royal Infirmary in the town centre.

**Graph I.**  
MONTHLY AVERAGE  
CONCENTRATION SMOKE IN MG PER M<sup>3</sup>





**Graph II.**  
MONTHLY AVERAGE  
CONCENTRATION SO<sub>2</sub> PARTS PER MILLION



Graph III.

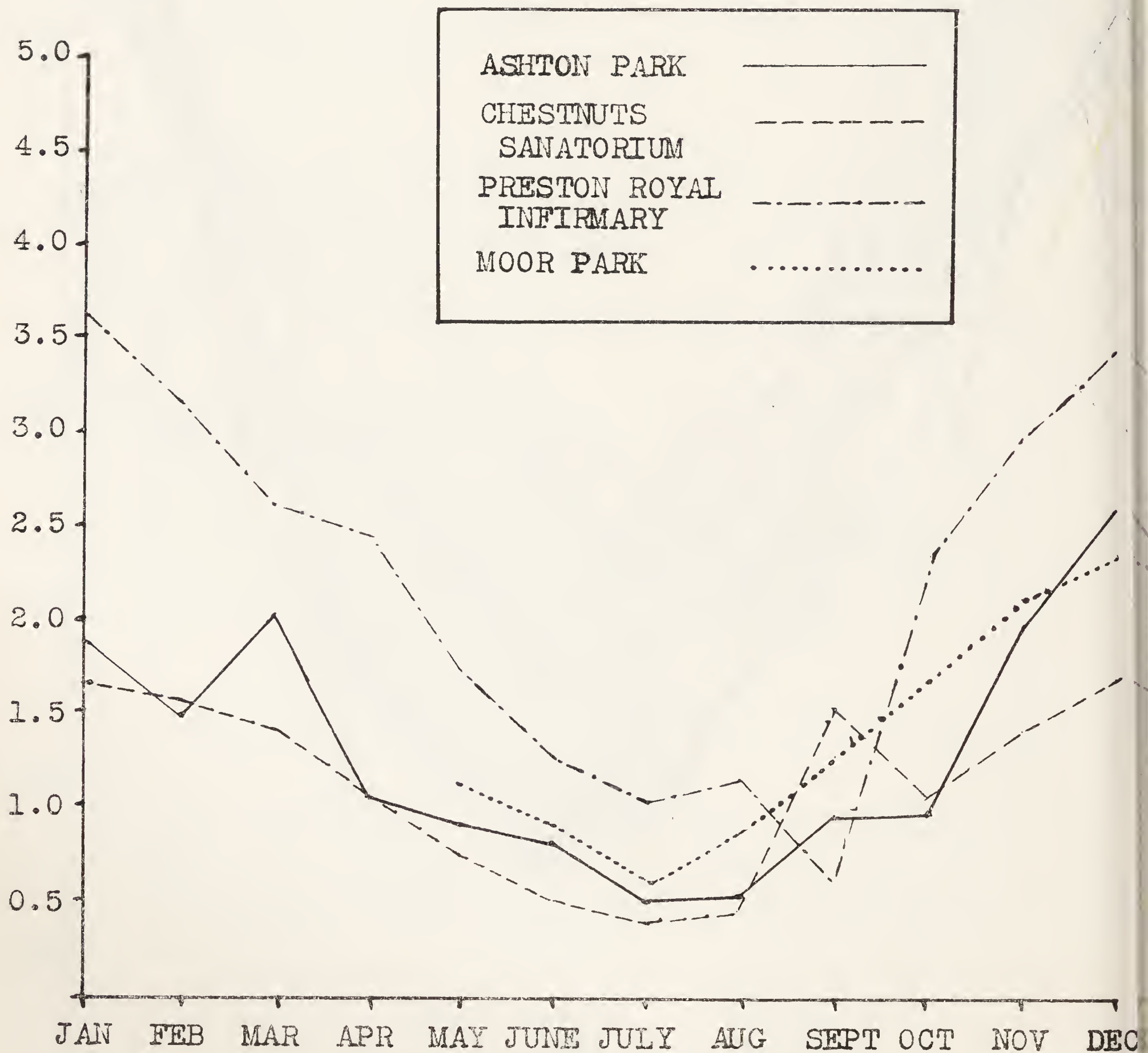
1958 LEAD-PEROXIDE METHOD Wt. of  $\text{SO}_3$  Mg/100 sq. cm./day



Table 51 gives the average deposit each month of solids in tons per square mile at each of the four stations.

<b>Table 51.</b> <b>Measurement of Deposited Matter by Deposit Gauge.</b>				
	Average figures per month			
	Ashton Park	Chestnuts Sanatorium	P.R.I.	Moor Park
Rain in inches ... ..	3.60	3.67	3.11	3.81
Total dissolved matters in tons per square mile ... ..	5.39	5.38	7.19	5.14
Total insoluble matter in tons per square mile ... ..	6.24	3.82	13.08	5.68
Soluble matter in CS <sub>2</sub> in tons per square mile ... ..	0.10	0.10	0.20	0.14
Other combustibles in tons per square mile ... ..	2.34	1.62	4.54	1.87
Total solids in tons per square mile	11.63	9.22	20.27	10.83

### Its Control.

General surveillance of the town is carried out by the Smoke Inspector, assisted by the individual district inspector, and visits of inspection and observation were carried out as set out in the following table.

<b>Table 52.</b> <b>Visits in connection with Atmospheric Pollution.</b>								
	Dwelling houses	Rail- ways	Vessels	Steam Boilers	Metal- lurgical Furnaces	Brick Kilns	Others	Total
1. Observations taken or deposits collected ...	3	19	29	184	12	—	4	251
2. Inspections on complaint ...	—	—	—	1	5	—	2	8
3. Nuisance source—								
Smoke ...	—	10	19	40	—	—	1	70
Grit ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Other ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Seventy-two notices were served under Section 102 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and Sections 1 and 5 of the Clean Air Act, 1956 as a consequence of observed breaches of the law.

Ten repairs, alterations and improvements were carried out.

Two prosecutions were undertaken, one against a householder who had been persistently warned for a breach of the Smokeless Zone Order and one in respect of the emission of dark smoke from an industrial chimney. Fines of £1 and £10 were imposed by the Magistrates in these cases.

### **Smokeless Zones.**

In continuance of its policy to free the air over Preston from pollution the Council, after considering proposals which are set out as an appendix to this report, decided to make an order under the Clean Air Act, 1956, establishing a third zone of smokelessness. The Order made in December 1958 and confirmed by the Minister in March 1959 covers an area of 136.16 acres to the west and north of the first zone and operates from the 1st October, 1959. From this date a central area of 312.55 acres will be covered by operative orders.

### **Prior Approval.**

Nine applications for prior approval under Section 102 of the Preston Corporation Act, 1947, were received during the year. Eight of these were approved, three subject to the installation of a smoke alarm and one subject to the use of the best available fuel. One of the applications was not approved because the plant was installed before the application was received and a similar decision was made in respect of an application made in 1957.

Twenty notifications were received of intention to instal furnaces under the Clean Air Act, 1956, these furnaces not requiring approval under Preston Corporation Act ; no objection was raised.

One plan was submitted for the erection of a chimney under Section 10, Clean Air Act, and subsequently approved after agreement had been reached as to an increase in its height.

### **Pollution from Railway Engines.**

Considerable pollution, causing much irritation to residents in adjacent properties, arises from railway engines in and around the railway station and its adjacent marshalling yards and after a long period of pressure the Railway Executive agreed to the substitution of some shunting coal-fired engines by six diesel locomotives so that there has been some alleviation of this particular problem.



### **13.—Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952.**

#### **Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Regulations, 1953.**

Constant watch is kept for contraventions of the above Act and Regulations and it has been necessary to issue occasional warnings to second-hand dealers.

### **14.—Public Conveniences.**

Weighing machines are fitted in the four conveniences in Church Street, Earl Street and Birley Street. These conveniences are served each by an attendant and are fitted with basins provided with hot and cold water. Linen towels can be obtained at a charge of twopence. Hot air hand driers are also provided at these conveniences.

Hot and cold water is also laid on to Garstang Road and Kendal Street, Fylde Road/Victoria Street, Adelphi Street/Moorbrook Street, and Grange Park conveniences and hand driers are provided. Garstang Road convenience is staffed during the summer period.

During the year a considerable amount of damage was done in the public conveniences, particularly to hand driers, and the Health Committee decided to obtain three additional hand driers to be held as spares for replacing any which have to be taken away for repair.

### **15.—Pharmacy and Poisons Act.**

In connection with the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, Part 2, registrations, 16 visits were paid to premises, mainly small mixed business shops seeking registration under the Act.

### **16.—Hairdressing Establishments.**

Eight additional registrations and 16 changes of registration under Section 108, Preston Corporation Act, 1947, were approved during the year.

In all, 225 visits were made in connection with the supervision of hygiene conditions in these establishments.

**17.—Fertilisers and Feedingstuffs Act, 1926.**

Ten samples of feedingstuffs and ten samples of fertilisers were taken during the year and the results are itemised in the following tables :—

<b>Table 53.</b>					
<b>Feedingstuffs</b>					
Class of Sample	Number Taken	FORMAL		INFORMAL	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Battery Mash ... ..	4	—	3	1	—
Free Range Layers Mash ...	1	1	—	—	—
Baby Chick Food ... ..	1	1	—	—	—
Sow and Weaner Meal ... ..	2	2	—	—	—
High Yield Dairy Return ...	1	—	—	1	—
Pig Meal ... ..	1	—	1	—	—
Total ... ..	10	4	4	2	—

<b>Table 54.</b>			
<b>Fertilisers</b>			
Class of Sample	Number Taken	INFORMAL	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Liquid Fertiliser ... ..	2	2	—
Sulphate of Potash ... ..	1	1	—
Steamed Bonemeal ... ..	1	1	—
Growmore Fertiliser ... ..	2	2	—
Superphosphates ... ..	2	2	—
Dried Blood ... ..	1	1	—
Bone Meal ... ..	1	1	—
Total ... ..	10	10	—



In one sample of battery mash the protein content was less than that declared in the statutory statement and the statement was also in the wrong form.

In the second unsatisfactory battery mash the oil content was less than that declared in the statutory statement.

In the third unsatisfactory battery mash the fibre content was greater than that declared in the statutory statement.

In the pig meal the protein content was less than that declared and the fibre was greater than that declared in the statutory statement.

In all the above cases warning letters were sent to the compounders.

There were no requests for purchasers to have articles sampled and analysed in accordance with Section 3 of the Fertilisers and Feedingstuffs Act, 1926.

### 18.—Rag Flock.

At the end of the year there were ten premises registered in accordance with Section 2 of the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

Ten samples of filling materials were taken during the year and the results are itemised in the following table :—

Class of Sample	Number of Samples taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Feathers ... ..	1	1	—
Rag Flock ... ..	3	3	—
Cotton Felt ... ..	3	3	—
Coir Fibre ... ..	1	1	—
Kapok ... ..	1	1	—
Woollen Mixture Flock ... ..	1	1	—
Total ... ..	10	10	—

## Housing

### Clearance of Unfit Houses.

The central area of the town has been largely dealt with and representation of the worst property in the inner ring is now in progress. This is being done almost entirely by the declaration of clearance areas and only a few houses have been declared unfit under the procedure applicable to individual houses.

### Clearance Areas.

A formal inquiry was held in April 1958 into orders made in 1957 in respect of 184 houses in the Bow Lane and Marsh Lane areas and in the area between North Road and Park Road. These orders were subsequently confirmed with the exclusion of one house considered by the Minister not now to be a house and of one shop portion of a house and with some variation in respect of the compulsory requisition of fit property and land.

During 1958 formal representation was made in respect of 363 houses in various parts of the inner ring. The areas cover 6.696 acres and at present house 1,081 persons equivalent to 3 persons per house. The 364 families living in these houses include 68 persons living alone and 191 couples.

The orders made by the Council are set out below, include a further 71 houses and involve a total area of 9.362 acres.

#### Preston (Bostock Street) Clearance Order, 1958.

Location : Lying to the south of Church Street and entered from Boltons Court.

Acreage and Density :

Acreage of land in Order	...	...	...	0.1320
Housing density per acre	...	...	...	45

#### Preston (Back Higford Street, etc.) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1958.

Location : Three separate blocks of property lying to the south of New Hall Lane, between Higford Street and Witton Street.

Acreage and density :

Acreage of Order	...	...	...	0.25
Acreage of Pink Property	...	...	...	0.242
Housing density of Pink Property per acre	...	...	...	70.3

#### Preston (Oxford Street, etc.) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1958.

Location : An elongated block of property lying to the south of Avenham Lane and on the western side of Oxford Street with the cleared site of Brunswick Street, etc. Compulsory Purchase Order, 1954, to the rear of most of the properties.

Acreage and Density :

Acreage of Order	...	...	...	1.64
Acreage of Pink Property	...	...	...	1.28
Housing density of Pink Property per acre	...	...	...	53



**Preston (Mill Hill, etc.) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1958.**

Location : An irregular shaped area lying between Adelphi Street and Fylde Road and to the immediate north of Fylde Street. The unfit houses in this Order formed the Mill Hill etc. Clearance Area and the Fylde Street Clearance Area.

## Acreage and Density :

Acreage of Order	...	...	...	...	1.12
Acreage of Pink Property	...	...	...	...	0.58
Housing density of Pink Property per acre	...	...	...	...	51.7

**Preston (Milton Street, etc.) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1958.**

Location : Lying between Moor Lane and Adelphi Street with Adelphi Place to the south and Harrington Street to the north. The unfit houses in this Order formed the Milton Street etc. Clearance Area, the Moor Lane (Nos. 4 and 5) Clearance Areas, the Adelphi Place Clearance Area, the St. Peter's Street Clearance Area and the Adelphi Street Clearance Area.

## Acreage and Density :

Acreage of Order	...	...	...	...	3.33
Acreage of Pink Property	...	...	...	...	2.26
Housing density of Pink Property per acre	...	...	...	...	56.9

**Preston (Pollard Street, etc.) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1958.**

Location : Lying between Fylde Road and Cold Bath Street with Kirkham Street to the north and Maudland Road to the south. The unfit houses in this Order formed the Pollard Street etc. Clearance Area, the Maudland Road etc. Clearance Area and the Fylde Road Clearance Area.

## Acreage and Density :

Acreage of Order	...	...	...	...	1.81
Acreage of Pink Property	...	...	...	...	1.42
Housing density of Pink Property per acre	...	...	...	...	59.1

**Preston (Cunliffe Street, etc.) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1958.**

Location : A rectangular shaped block of property bounded by Pump Street, St. Paul's Road, Cunliffe Street and Egan Street.

## Acreage and Density :

Acreage of Order	...	...	...	...	0.36
Acreage of Pink Property	...	...	...	...	0.342
Housing density of Pink Property per acre	...	...	...	...	50

**Preston (Gildow Street, etc.) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1958.**

Location : Lying on the north side of Marsh lane and to the east of its junction with Croft Street. The unfit houses in this Order formed the Gildow Street etc. Clearance Area and the Marsh Lane (No. 4) Clearance Area.

Acreage and Density :

Acreage of Order	...	...	...	0.72
Acreage of Pink Property	...	...	...	0.44
Housing density of Pink Property per acre	...	...	...	48.8

The progress of the Corporation's post-war programme to the end of 1958 is seen clearly from the data given in the following table :—

<div>Table 56.</div> <div>No. of houses and persons dealt with in clearance areas represented to the end of 1958.</div>									
Year of Representation	Number of houses included		Total number of houses		Persons displaced				Total persons displaced
	Unfit	Fit	Empty	Demolished	Rehoused by Local Quthority		Otherwise displaced		
					Unfit houses	Fit houses	Unfit houses	Fit houses	
1951	21	—	—	21	69	—	5	—	74
1954	169	1	—	170	575	—	4	2	581
1955	262*	13	90	180	616	29	70	5	720
1956	344	44	293	34	817	78	94	17	1,006
1957	183†	14	12	—	2	—	—	—	2
1958‡	363	71	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1,342	143	403	405	2,079	107	173	24	2,383

\* Five houses in a compulsory purchase order subsequently determined by the Minister as fit

† A confirmed order included one house represented as unfit but determined as not a house within the meaning of the act.

‡ Orders made during 1958 are awaiting Ministerial decision.

Certain points are evident from the figures given in Table 56. Firstly about two years seem to elapse between representation of the house and rehousing of its occupants, whilst clearance of the site takes appreciably longer. Usually eight or nine months pass between representation and the holding of the inquiry and another four to six months before the Minister's decision is made known.



The first tenant displaced is rarely housed earlier than seventeen months after the initial representation and further removals then become dependant on the nature of the accommodation required and the ability of the tenants to meet the rents asked.

Clearance of a site does not start until all the houses have been vacated and in consequence some difficult housing problem can hold up demolition for months.

Evidence of the easing of the housing shortage is given by the rehousing figures. Whereas in respect of the representations made up to 1954 practically everybody other than a few single persons living in lodgings was rehoused by the local authority. Of the representations made in 1955 and 1956 rather more than 10% of the occupants found their own accommodation.

This point is further emphasized in Table 57 where it is shown that over 15% of the families displaced under slum clearance procedure in 1958 found their own alternative accommodation.

**Table 57.**  
**Families displaced during 1958.**

	Rehoused by Local Authority	Otherwise Displaced (Found own accommodation etc.)	Total
Clearance Orders and Compulsory Purchase Orders	255	47	302
Individual Unfit Houses ...	12	2	14
Total ... ..	267	49	316

### **Individual Unfit Houses.**

Formal representation was made in respect of nine individual houses considered unfit under Section 17 of the 1957 Act. During the year the Council made two demolition orders and ten closing orders under the Housing Act, relating to these and other representations overlapping from the previous year. Certificates of Unfitness were issued in respect of three Council owned houses. Nineteen houses were demolished as a consequence of orders made.

Five houses were made fit after the Council's acceptance of formal undertakings.

At the end of 1958 five individually unfit houses were still being used for housing purposes.

## Repair of Unfit Houses.

Representations to the Council were made in respect of seven houses regarded as capable of being made fit at reasonable expense. During the year formal notices were served under the Housing Act in respect of three houses and informal notices for a further nine houses. Six houses were rendered fit as a consequence of notices served.

General repair of houses under public health act procedure was also carried out and is referred to in the preceding chapter of the report.

Table 58 records statistically the work carried out under the Housing Act during 1958.

Number of Inspections ... ..	2,464
Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	379
Number of Representations made to the Council —	
(a) with a view to service of Notice requiring execution of works	7
(b) with a view to making of Demolition Orders, Closing Orders and Certificates of Unfitness ... ..	9
(c) with a view to declaring Clearance Areas (Number of houses)	363
Number of notices served requiring execution of works—	
(a) informal ... ..	9
(b) formal ... ..	3
Number of houses rendered fit after service of—	
(a) informal notice ... ..	1
(b) formal notice ... ..	5
Number of Demolition Orders made under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 ... ..	2
Number of Closing Orders made under Section 17(1), Housing Act, 1957 ... ..	10
Number of Closing Orders made under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957 ... ..	—
Number of Undertakings accepted by the Council ... ..	4
Number of houses demolished as a result of Orders made under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936 and Section 17 Housing Act, 1957	19
Number of houses demolished as a result of Compulsory Purchase Orders ... ..	142
Number of houses demolished as a result of Clearance Orders ...	33



**Table 59.**  
**Overcrowding, 1958.**

Number of complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Number of complaints confirmed and referred to the Housing Committee	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Number of complaints not confirmed	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Number of complaints confirmed but no action taken	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Number rehoused while complaint was being investigated	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number rehoused by the Local Authority following reference	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

**Table 60.**  
**Rent Act, 1957.**  
**Certificates of Disrepair.**

Number of certificates applied for	...	...	...	...	...	...	251
Number of certificates granted	...	...	...	...	...	...	336
Number of certificates refused	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Number of applications for revocation	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Number of objections to revocation	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Number of certificates revoked	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Number of revocation certificates refused	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Number of applications by landlord for certificate as to remedying of defects	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Number of applications by tenant for certificate as to remedying of defects	...	...	...	...	...	...	77
Number of certificates as to remedying of defects recommended	...	...	...	...	...	...	97

## Food and Drugs.

### Food Hygiene.

Efforts to improve the conditions under which food is handled have been continued during the year. A main step in this work has been the establishing of a minimum standard of fitness of premises and a reasonable hygiene level in the handling of foodstuffs. Persuasion failed in three instances to achieve satisfactory results so that action in the courts was necessary. All three prosecutions were successful and fines ranging from £2 to £30 were imposed. Another successful prosecution involving the payment of £12 was directed against the sale of prawns considered to be unfit.

**Table 61.**  
**Hygiene in Food Premises.**

Premises	Number of visits
Premises registered under Section 16 Food and Drugs Act, 1955 ...	79
Cafes, restaurants and snack bars ... ..	159
Bakehouses ... ..	137
Food hawkers and storage accommodation ... ..	100
Food shops ... ..	472
Food markets ... ..	1,008
Food preparing premises ... ..	210
Licensed premises ... ..	82
Registered dairies and bottled milk distributors ... ..	486
Premises re the inspection of food ... ..	780
	3,513

**Table 62.**  
**Repairs and improvements effected in food preparing premises.**

Repair or Improvement	Number
W.C. accommodation provided, improved, repaired or renewed ... ..	4
Roofs repaired or renewed... ..	3
Dustbins provided ... ..	1
Floors repaired or renewed ... ..	24
Food preparing premises cleansed ... ..	31
Food storage provided or repaired ... ..	12
Hand washing facilities in food premises provided ... ..	39
Lighting and ventilation improved ... ..	14
Plasterwork repaired or renewed ... ..	8
Premises disinfested or cleansed ... ..	2
Sinks repaired or renewed ... ..	9
Walls repaired or renewed ... ..	19
Windows repaired or renewed ... ..	2
Woodwork (general) repaired or renewed ... ..	14
Other work done ... ..	19
Staircases repaired or renewed ... ..	1



**MILK.****Milk and Milk Sampling.**

One hundred and forty-one samples of milk were taken from supplies coming into the borough to determine the presence of tubercle bacilli. Table 63 shows that one of the samples gave positive findings. The inspection by the veterinary officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food revealed that all animals of the herd producing milk had been sold.

**Table 63.**  
**Milk samples taken for biological examination.**

Class of milk sample	No. of samples taken	Tubercle bacilli	
		Absent	Present
Ungraded ... ..	29	28	1
Tuberculin Tested ... ..	58	58	—
T.T. (Farm bottled) ... ..	22	22	—
T.T. (Farm bottled) (Channel Island) ...	32	32	—
Total ... ..	141	140	1

Table 64 shows the number of samples taken for bacteriological examination. In the case of unsatisfactory samples of known farm supplies, or producer/retailers the information is passed to the Area Chief Milk Production Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for his investigation.

**Table 64.**  
**Milk samples taken for bacteriological examination.**

Class of milk sample	No. of samples taken	Methylene Blue test	
		Passed	Failed
Ungraded ... ..	31	27	4
Tuberculin Tested ... ..	61	50	11
T.T. (Farm bottled) ... ..	23	22	1
T.T. (Pasteurised) ... ..	9	9	—
T.T. (Farm bottled) (Channel Island) ...	33	32	1
Pasteurised ... ..	11	11	—
Pasteurised (Homogenised) ... ..	1	1	—
Total ... ..	169	152	17

A total of two hundred and twenty-three samples of milk were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical analysis. These are summarised in Table 65.

Two samples of milk from schools were found to be satisfactory.

Table 65. Milk samples taken for chemical analysis.						
Class of milk sample	No. of Samples taken	Informal		Formal		
		Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	
Ungraded ... ..	53	51	1	1	—	
Tuberculin Tested ... ..	38	31	6	1	—	
T.T. (Farm bottled) ... ..	29	5	—	21	3	
T.T. (Farm bottled) (Channel Island) ... ..	8	7	—	1	—	
T.T. (Pasteurised) ... ..	31	7	—	1	—	
T.T. (Channel Island) (Pasteurised) ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	
Pasteurised ... ..	52	10	—	42	—	
Sterilised... ..	11	1	1	9	—	
Total ... ..	223	112	8	100	3	

Six of the unsatisfactory samples contained small amounts of extraneous water ranging from 0.3% to 1.8%, and 5 showed fat deficiencies ranging from 0.6% to 11.6%. Warning letters were sent to the producers or retailers in every instance and follow-up samples were found to be satisfactory.

Table 66. Milk samples taken for Phosphatase, Methylene Blue and Turbidity Tests.							
Class of sample	No. of samples taken	Phosphatase		Meth. Blue		Turbidity	
		Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed
Pasteurised ... ..	76	75	1	75	1	—	—
T.T. (Pasteurised) ... ..	70	70	—	69	1	—	—
Sterilised ... ..	41	—	—	—	—	41	—
Totals ... ..	187	145	1	144	2	41	—

The pasteurised milk sample which failed the phosphatase test was from a plant outside the borough and the information was passed to the County Medical Officer of Health for investigation.

The two unsatisfactory methylene blue tests were also from plants outside the borough but were declared void in accordance with Part III of the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Milk Regulations 1949-1953, as the atmospheric shade temperature exceeded 65°F. after sampling but before testing.



### Dairies and Milk Distributors.

At the end of the year there were twenty-three premises registered as dairies. The owners of two of these dairies hold licences to pasteurise milk under the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Milk Regulations. Two hundred and twenty-two distributors are registered for the sale of bottled milk at shops. There are also on the register nineteen distributors operating from premises outside the borough and approximately nineteen dairy farmers are known to be retailing milk in the borough.

One dairy was closed during the year. Structural standards and cleanliness of premises remain good generally.

The two pasteurising plants in the area are of the "High Temperature short time" type.

### Miscellaneous Foods.

One hundred and sixty-five samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and two hundred and forty-five for chemical analysis. These are summarised in the three subsequent tables.

**Table 67.**  
**Miscellaneous samples taken for bacteriological examination.**

Class of sample	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Milk bottle rinses ... ..	54	54	—
Water ... ..	8	8	—
Well water ... ..	8	4	4
Orange drink bottle rinses...	4	4	—
Cream ... ..	6	6	—
Yoghourt ... ..	1	1	—
Swabs taken in Canteen ... ..	36	36	—
Total ... ..	117	113	4

### ICE CREAM.

At the end of the year there were fifteen registered manufacturers of ice-cream in the borough.

The two unsatisfactory bacteriological results were investigated and follow-up samples were found to be satisfactory.

**Table 68.**  
**Ice Cream and Ice Lolly samples taken for bacteriological examination**

	No.	Methylene Blue		Coliform Organisms in 0.3ml.	
		Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Absent	Present
Ice Cream ... ..	44	43	1	—	—
Ice Cream Lollies ...	2	1	—	—	1
Ice Lollies ... ..	3	—	—	3	—

Table 69. Ice-cream samples taken for chemical analysis.		
Number	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
6	6	—

Table 70.						
Miscellaneous samples taken for chemical analysis.						
Class of sample				Number of samples taken	Informal	
					Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Miscellaneous foodstuffs...	...			29	29	—
Tinned fruit	...	...	...	3	3	—
Tinned fish	...	...	...	7	7	—
Tinned meat	...	...	...	6	6	—
Soft drinks and beverages	...			22	22	—
Butter	...	...	...	10	10	—
Fats (incl. margarine)	...	...		19	18	1
Cream	...	...	...	7	7	—
Seasoning and sauces	...	...		15	15	—
Non-brewed condiment	...	...		2	—	2
Sausages	...	...	...	3	2	1
Bread	...	...	...	9	8	1
Flour	...	...	...	3	3	—
Cereals	...	...	...	6	6	—
Pickles and spices	...	...		4	4	—
Prepared foods	...	...	...	5	5	—
Preserves and jellies	...	...		8	8	—
Cakes, biscuits, etc.	...	...		16	16	—
Fruits	...	...	...	12	12	—
Condensed milk	...	...	...	1	1	—
Currants, dates, raisins	...	...		2	2	—
Sweets	...	...	...	16	16	—
Mincemeat	...	...	...	1	1	—
Patent medicine	...	...	...	9	8	1
Meat and meat products	...			3	3	—
Soups	...	...	...	5	5	—
Dried fruits	...	...	...	7	7	—
Sugar	...	...	...	2	2	—
Cheese and cheese products	...			4	4	—
Evaporated milk	...	...		2	2	—
Rum butter	...	...	...	1	—	1
					Formal	
					Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Rum butter	...	...	...	1	—	1
Total ...				240	232	8



The two unsatisfactory samples of rum butter were contraventions of the Labelling of Food Order. The advertising literature displayed in the shop included a claim of high vitamin content which was not justified. The manufacturers agreed to withdraw their advertising literature.

One sample of bread contained foreign matter which consisted of 0.19 grammes of cotton fibres impregnated with fatty matter and dough. Investigations at the bakery showed that the probable cause was a frayed conveyor belt in the production line.

Two samples of non-brewed condiment were slightly low in acetic acid content.

One sample of seidlitz powder was deficient in weight of one of the ingredients.

One sample of dripping had a high fatty acid content indicating a degree of rancidity.

One sample of sausage contained three small particles of glass. Investigations were carried out at the manufacturers.

In all the above instances warning letters were sent to the persons concerned.

### **Wholesale Fish Market.**

During the year 14 cwts. 13 lbs. of fish were surrendered as unfit for human consumption.

There has been no material change in the structure of the market. The surface area of the premises is still grouted cobbles, but the general cleanliness in and around the market is fairly good.

### **Retail Markets.**

Visits to all food markets have been made by public health inspectors on all market days during the year.

Representation as to the unsatisfactory conditions prevailing at the Public Markets have continued to be made and joint discussions have taken place. It has been suggested that initially the fish market might be dealt with and a scheme for the provision of a new market dealing with fish and allied commodities is receiving consideration by the markets committee.

**Condemnation of Food.**

During the year it was necessary under the provisions of Section 9 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 to seize and destroy a tray of beef fat which was mouldy.

<b>Table 71.</b>							
<b>Unfit food surrendered.</b>							
						lbs.	ozs.
Canned goods	...	...	...	...	...	19,142	12
Bacon and ham	...	...	...	...	...	203	0
Confectionery	...	...	...	...	...	18	0
Dairy produce	...	...	...	...	...	1,317	4
Eggs	...	...	...	...	...	45	0
Fish (retail)	...	...	...	...	...	392	0
Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	98	0
Mushrooms	...	...	...	...	...	378	8
Offals (tripe, trotters, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	392	0
Pickles and spices	...	...	...	...	...	7	8
Prepared foods	...	...	...	...	...	56	0
Rabbits and poultry	...	...	...	...	...	126	0
Shel fish	...	...	...	...	...	504	0
Vegetab es	...	...	...	...	...	182	0
						22,862	0

In addition to the above, 534 tons, 7 cwts., 3 qrs., 14 lbs. of foodstuffs consisting of bananas, coconuts, citrus fruits, potatoes and blackberries were surrendered at the Port of Preston as unfit for human consumption.

**Agriculture Act, 1937 (Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949).**

No herd inspections were carried out during the year by the Veterinary Officer.

**MEAT.**

The Veterinary Officer and Meat Inspectors made visits as under :—

<b>Table 72.</b>							
<b>Visits made by Veterinary Officer and Meat Inspectors.</b>							
						Veterinary Officer	Meat Inspectors
Visits to public slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	443	349
Visits to private slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	84	79
Visits to butchers' shops	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Visits to shops, stores, etc., to inspect fresh meat brought into the borough	...	...	...	...	...	8	—
Other premises	...	...	...	...	...	48	—
Number of cattle floats inspected	...	...	...	...	...	—	76



### Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933-1954.

The number of licensed slaughtermen at the year end was 46. No action was taken under the Act.

### Public Abattoir.

<b>Table 73.</b> <b>Number of animals killed and inspected.</b>				
Year	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Calves
1958 ... ..	7,818	27,920	7,261	225
1957 ... ..	8,764	31,854	6,460	341
1956 ... ..	8,762	32,356	7,987	337
1955 ... ..	7,764	33,652	7,422	432

<b>Table 74.</b> <b>Casualties (included in figures in Table 73).</b>				
Year	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Calves
1958 ... ..	173	145	459	44
1957 ... ..	206	170	412	59
1956 ... ..	180	97	421	62
1955 ... ..	227	111	497	40

No item of outstanding interest occurred during the year. The quality of meat butchered during the year has been, on the whole, of a very good standard, there being a preponderance of good quality heifers among the cattle. This gives cause for a certain amount of satisfaction and compares very favourably with the position of a few years ago, when a fair amount of the meat available was much below the average quality now being dealt with. The disease position has also improved over the years, and each year recently has shown a slight decrease in the number and percentage of animals affected with disease. The previous major cause of condemnation of meat, tuberculosis, is now on its way out, eradication being scheduled for 1960. This gives considerable cause for satisfaction, although slight amounts of tuberculosis may continue for a while.

The increase in liver fluke disease during the year was noticeable, particularly during the second half of the year. This can largely be attributed to two wet summers favouring the development and survival of this parasite.

During the year the Corporation's Industrial Waste Eliminators Limited plant for the disposal of condemned meat closed down as an uneconomic measure, and arrangements for the disposal of the material by a private firm were agreed upon. These arrangements are working satisfactorily.

**Private Slaughterhouses.**

One private slaughterhouse in the Borough, built just before the war, has not functioned regularly as such until this year. Regular slaughtering commenced on the 15th September, and has continued on well run lines since. This slaughterhouse is most modern in design and equipment and can be administered with comparative ease. The standard of meat dealt with has been very good and it has been possible to carry out meat inspection there with a complete absence of difficulty. The utmost co-operation has been shown to the meat inspection staff.

Table 75. Number of animals killed and inspected							
Year				Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	
1958	...	...	...	476	1,205	1,138	

Table 76. Number of Casualties found							
Year				Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	
1958	...	...	...	1	—	—	

**Meat Marketing.**

All cattle, sheep and pigs passed as fit for human consumption are stamped. Meat condemned is marked to avoid any chance of mistake and meat deferred for further consideration is detained by a notice attached to the carcase and offal.

**Fresh Meat coming into the Borough from other areas.**

A certain amount of meat killed and inspected outside the borough is sold in the borough. This meat is presumed to be all fit for human consumption and it is not possible to re-examine it as a routine measure.

**Public Health (Meat) Regulations.**

The general state of meat handling is reasonably satisfactory, but continuous supervision is necessary to prevent slackness. No breach of the regulations requiring statutory action has occurred.



**Table 77.**  
**Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.**

	Total Cattle	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed ... ..	8,285	5,185*	3,100*	223	29,057	8,267	—
Number inspected ... ..	8,294	5,194*	3,100*	225	29,089	8,399	—
<b>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCOSIS</b>							
Whole carcases condemned ... ..	—	12	52	37	70	225	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	—	1,210	756	8	1,771	1,450	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ... ..	—	23.3	24.4	20.0	6.5	21.1	—
<b>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</b>							
Whole carcases condemned ... ..	—	13	25	2	—	33	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	—	352	455	—	—	238	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... ..	—	7.0	15.5	.6	—	.3	—
<b>CYSTICERCOSIS</b>							
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	52	39	13	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigera- tion ... ..	—	39	13	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

\* Estimated figures.

### **Meat inspected other than at Abattoir or Private Slaughterhouses.**

Visits are made to wholesalers, cold stores, etc., in the borough, the meat in these cases mostly having been killed and inspected elsewhere. No complaint has been discovered.

**Table 78.**  
**Amount of condemned meat.**

Imported Mutton	...	...	...	5½ lbs.
Imported Beef	...	...	...	222 „
Imported Kidneys	...	...	...	62 „
Imported Livers	...	...	...	85 „
Home Killed Beef	...	...	...	314 „
				668½ lbs.

### **DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS AND ORDERS.**

#### **Anthrax Order, 1938.**

No case of this disease occurred in the borough during the year and the number of cases throughout the country was less than the previous few years.

#### **Foot and Mouth Disease Order, 1938.**

No case of this disease occurred in the borough during the year but an outbreak nearby caused restrictions to be placed on the movement of animals in the borough. The Cattle Market was closed because of this, for a fortnight, and only essential movement was permitted, under licence.

#### **Atrophic Rhinitis Order, 1954.**

A few outbreaks of this disease occurred in the country but none which affected the Preston area.

#### **Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957.**

Twelve operators of swill plants have been licensed by the Council. No cause for complaint has been found.

#### **Sheep Scab Order, 1938.**

This disease has been eradicated from the country but as the regulations requiring dipping of sheep are still in force these requirements have been carried out under supervision.

#### **Swine Fever Order, 1938.**

More outbreaks occurred in the country during the year but Preston was little affected. Contact pigs passing through the market were traced for the Ministry of Agriculture. A few in-contact pigs were slaughtered at the abattoir and a suspicious case occurred at the abattoir. This was not confirmed by the Ministry of Agriculture.



**Movement of Swine Order, 1954.**

All pigs leaving the market must be licensed to their destination. During the year 5,291 licences were issued for the removal of 79,708 pigs and no offences against the Order occurred.

**Warble Fly Order, 1948.**

Dressing is carried out under the terms of this Order and the infestation rate appears to gradually decrease.

**Tuberculosis Order, 1938.**

Three cattle were killed under this Order at the abattoir during the year, all of which were totally condemned. All three were found as a result of milk sampling.

**Market Sales and Lairs Order, 1925.**

Special care was taken in the cleaning and disinfection of the market when Foot and Mouth disease was in the vicinity.

**Transit of Animals Order, 1927-1947.**

No prosecutions were necessary under the above Order. Occasional warnings were given and animals which were unfit to travel were detained and slaughtered at the abattoir. In all eight calves, two cattle, four pigs and two sheep were so detained.

Number of vehicles cleansed and disinfected	...	3,094
Number of vehicles inspected...	... ..	76

**Importation of Dogs and Cats Order.**

Two dogs landed illegally on Preston dock during the year, both escaping together from the same ship. Their absence was not discovered till later. As soon as knowledge was received that the dogs were missing, action was taken to find the dogs. They were eventually traced and placed in quarantine, and were still in quarantine at the year end.

**Transit of Horses Order, 1951.**

No action has been necessary under the above Order.

**Animals (Landing from Ireland, Channel Islands and Isle of Man) Order, 1938.**

One hundred and eighty-two licences were issued for the movement of 3,058 Irish cattle coming through Preston. In addition, 1,207 Irish cattle and 207 Irish sheep were licensed to Preston for immediate slaughter.

**Fowl Pest Orders, 1936-1954.**

No cases of this disease occurred in the Borough and in July the Fowl Pest (Infected Area Restrictions) Order, 1956, was withdrawn from the Preston area.

**Poultry (Exposure for Sale) Order, 1937.**

As no poultry sales were held no action was necessary under the above Order.

**Protection of Animals Acts, 1911-1912.**

Two cases occurring in the Borough were taken to court for prosecution. One defendant was fined £5 and costs for wounding a dog, and one defendant was fined £5 and costs for neglecting a cow. Cautions have been given on numerous occasions for minor offences and the R.S.P.C.A. Inspector has attended markets regularly to keep watch in the course of his duty.

**Table 79.**  
**Details of markets held.**

	Number of Sales	Number of Visits
Store Cattle and Sheep ... ..	47	47
Non-Attested Fatstock Sales ... ..	50	50
Attested Fatstock Sales ... ..	22	22
Attested Dairy Cattle ... ..	50	50
Non-Attested Dairy Cattle ... ..	30	30
Fatstock Sales (Pigs and Sheep) ... ..	50	50
Horse Sales ... ..	11	11
Poultry Sales ... ..	—	—
Special Pig Sales ... ..	2	2

**Table 80.**  
**Animals passing through market.**

	1958	1957	1956	1955
Attested Cattle ... ..	4,779	3,270	3,409	3,046
Non-Attested Cattle ... ..	4,030	4,946	4,494	6,767
Fat Cattle ... ..	16,513	16,629	12,162	9,624
Sheep ... ..	26,890	24,978	22,903	17,492
Calves ... ..	13,445	13,287	14,280	10,721
Store Pigs ... ..	43,351	37,400	29,006	20,349
Fat Pigs ... ..	36,357	37,229	36,930	29,100
Horses ... ..	336	457	400	482

In August the main cattle market changed over to Attested status and Non-Attested cattle are now sold in the repository. As a consequence of this alteration of markets it has not been possible to completely correlate figures for different classifications of animals this year as compared with previous years.



## Port Health Administration.

### Port Health District.

The Port Health District of Preston extends from Formby Point on the south to a point 2,350 yards south of the Victoria Pier, South Shore, Blackpool, on the north. The dock, which is 3,200 feet long by 600 feet wide, covers 40 acres and is approached by the entrance basin, 850 feet long by 300 feet wide, an area of  $4\frac{3}{4}$  acres.

The communicating locks are 550 feet long and 66 feet wide, with a depth of 29 feet 6 inches at high water ordinary spring tide. The dock is situated within the county borough and is about 16 miles along the River Ribble from the sea.

The quays are over  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles long. There are 170 acres of storage ground and 61.525 superficial yards of covered floor space.

Easy access by road and rail facilitates cargo handling.

The construction by the dock undertaking of two permanent, drained refuse points to accommodate a number of bins and with space for crates, cartons and drums, near the Ferry Berths, has ensured that bins can be found at a definite place and spillage, which caused considerable fly nuisance, has been greatly reduced.

The banana waste to be disposed of has increased in amount, but daily removal has so far prevented the occurrence of nuisance.

Smoke emission from various installations and mobile units is still excessive. Some improvements have been made, but lack of interest and the human element are probably the major barriers to cleaner air. Some improvements have occurred as a result of better care and control of the plant near the dock entrance, whilst the repair and maintenance shops at the Strand Road end of the estate are being thoroughly overhauled and brought up to date. Much smoke comes from the old mobile cranes as well as the dock owned coal-fired locomotives. As a consequence of pressure brought to bear on the British Transport Commission by the Corporation diesel electric locomotives now undertake from the dock all the transport provided by British Railways whilst inside the dock estate the Corporation itself still pollutes the air with its coal-fired locomotives.

A survey of sanitary accommodation and drainage on the dock estate was made during the year ; considerable modernisation is required.

Co-operation by Her Majesty's Customs' Officers, the Trinity House Pilots, the officials and staff of the Ribble Navigation and Preston Dock Undertaking, the shipping agents and others who have been contacted about various matters, has assisted in the smooth working of the Port Health Service.

**Section I—Staff.**

Table 81.						
Staff						
Name of Officer			Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any other appointment held
J. S. G. Burnett	...		Port Medical Officer	1.2.49	M.D., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health
L. G. Samuel	...		Deputy Port Medical Officer	30.7.56	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Deputy Medical Officer of Health
N. M. Sampson	...		Port Health Inspector	3.3.58	Cert. R.S.I.	District Public Health Inspector
F. Yates	...	...	Deputy Port Health Inspector	17.7.55	Cert. R.S.I. Cert. Meat and Food	Public Health Inspector

ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :  
 Health Department, Municipal Building, Preston.  
*Telephone No. : Preston 4881.*

PRIVATE ADDRESS :  
 Brook House, 252 Garstang Road, Fulwood, Preston.  
*Telephone No. : Preston 77784.*

**Section II—Amount of Shipping entering the district during the year.**

<b>Table 82.</b>					
<b>Ships entering the district during the year.</b>					
Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having or having had during the voyage infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Public Health Inspectors	
Foreign ports ...	345	242,020	53	335	Nil
Coastwise	1,851	1,189,308	Nil	327	Nil
Total ...	2,196	1,431,328	53	662	Nil

There was a slight decrease in the number of vessels and tonnage arriving in the Port during the year. A considerable reduction of coal exports had a big effect on the figures for coastwise shipping.



## Section III—Character of Shipping and Trade during the year.

**Table 83.**  
**Character of Shipping and Trade during the year.**

<b>Passenger Traffic</b>	Number of passengers INWARDS...	...	...	3,330
	Number of passengers OUTWARDS	...	...	3,354

<b>Passengers to and from foreign ports:—</b>	Foreign ports	Irish Ferry service
<b>Passengers in:—</b>		
Alien     ...     ...     ...	56	3,177
British  ...     ...     ...	97	
<b>Passengers out:—</b>		
Alien     ...     ...     ...	35	3,239
British  ...     ...     ...	80	

**Cargo Traffic.**

**Principal Imports.**  
Bacon, bananas, bitumen, canned goods, china clay, citrus fruits, cloth goods, coconuts, confectionery, eggs, esparto grass, fish, fuel oils, grain, hardboard, lard, meat, milk, milk products, nut oils, petroleum, potatoes, scrap iron, shell grit, stone, styromonomer, timber, vehicles, wood pulp.

**Principal Exports.**  
Barbed wire, canned goods, cloth goods, coal, coke, containers, fuel oils, furniture, general cargo, iron and steel, machinery, nut oil, pitch, radio equipment, tar, vehicles.

Total imports 1957	861,918 tons.
Total exports 1957	674,424 tons.
Total imports 1958	941,563 tons.
Total exports 1958	636,815 tons.

**Principal ports from which ships arrive :—**

**Foreign —**

North Africa :	Arzew, Nemours, Sfax.
Antilles :	Kingstown, Port Castries, Port of Spain, Roseau, St. George, Vieux Fort.
North America :	Chicago, Montreal, Sarnia.
Denmark :	Copenhagen, Frederikssund.
France :	Blaye, Bordeaux, Rouen.
Finland :	Helsingfors, Kemi, Kotka, Mantyluoto, Oulu, Pori, Rauma, Turku, Vasa.
Germany :	Bremen, Hamburg.
Holland :	Amsterdam, Appingedam, Delfzyl, Groningen, Rotterdam, Zaarndam.
Norway :	Aalesund, Arendal, Bergen, Drammen, Fredrikstad, Haugesund, Kragero, Kristiansund N., Larvick, Namsos, Narvik, Oplo, Oslo, Porsgrunn, Skien, Stavanger, Tofte, Tromso, Trondheim.
Poland :	Gdynia, Stettin.
Sweden :	Domsjo, Gefle, Gothenburg, Halmstad, Helsingborg, Hernosand, Hudiksvall, Karlsborg, Karlshamn, Karlstad, Malmo, Norrkoping, Oskarshamn, Pitea, Sundsvall, Westervick.
U.S.S.R. :	Archangel, Igarka, Kaliningrad, Leningrad, Mesane, Onega.

**British Isles.**  
Barra, Belfast, Carrickfergus, Cork, Coryton, Dublin, Dundalk, Fawley, Fowey, Heysham, Larne, Liverpool, Manchester, Par, Penmaenmawr, Plymouth.

The main types of ships using the port have been the Northern Ireland ferry and container carrying vessels, the insulated banana carriers, timber and pulp vessels from Scandinavia, coastal tanks and cargo vessels employed on the coal trade.

The ferry transport and container services to and from Northern Ireland are attracting wider varieties of cargoes and considerable quantities and types of foodstuffs are now being imported.

In the past ten years important changes have taken place in the type of material imported into Preston dock. From the angle of the Port Health Service the main change has been the development of food imports, first, the banana trade from the West Indies, then the citrus fruit imports and more recently the transporting by the ferry boat and container services from Ireland of increasing quantities of refrigerated meat, eggs, milk and allied foodstuffs.

The increase in the number of vessels arriving from foreign ports is pleasing and there is a hope that this will be maintained, despite the trade recession.

#### **Section IV—Inland Barge Traffic.**

There is no inland barge traffic from or to the Port of Preston.

#### **Section V—Water Supply**

##### **1. SOURCE OF SUPPLY FOR**

###### **(a) THE DISTRICT :**

The district receives its water from the Corporation of Preston water mains, and is an upland surface water derived from the gathering grounds in the Forest of Bowland. The water is of good quality, well suited for drinking and domestic purposes.

###### **(b) SHIPPING :**

Shipping is supplied with water from the district supply by means of a hose from a shore hydrant.

##### **2. REPORTS OF TESTS FOR CONTAMINATION.**

Samples are taken from taps and hydrants on the district and tanks, drinking water taps and galley taps on board ships, as a routine procedure and otherwise when necessary.

During the year the following samples were obtained :—

- 15 samples for bacteriological examination from vessels.
- 4 samples for bacteriological examination from district supply.
- 1 sample for chemical examination from vessels.
- 0 samples for chemical examination from district supply.



The results of all bacteriological samples were "highly satisfactory" except two which were "suspicious." These two samples were from a vessel from which a case of suspected dysentery was removed while in the port. Tank cleaning was recommended and the next port of call notified.

The only chemical sample taken during the year was not satisfactory and a new tank and separate supply system was fitted on the vessel concerned.

3. The supply of water to shipping is under the direct control of the Port Authority who employ a special staff for this purpose. All precautions necessary to prevent contamination of hoses and hydrants are taken.

4. There are no water boats in the Port of Preston.

## **Section VI—Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.**

### **1. LIST OF INFECTED AREAS.**

The list of infected areas is prepared from, and amended as necessary, with details obtained from the World Health Organisation in the Weekly Epidemiological Record and is drawn up in the form of the list supplied. Copies of the list are supplied to the Trinity House Pilotage Office, Preston, and H.M. Waterguards Office, Preston.

### **2. RADIO MESSAGES.**

Preston is not a radio transmitting or receiving port.

### **3. NOTIFICATION OTHERWISE THAN BY RADIO.**

The Port Medical Officer is notified by telephone of any untoward circumstances on board an incoming vessel after such details have been passed to the Port Authority's barge at Lytham.

Cases of sickness are dealt with by the Boarding Medical Officer.

### **4. MOORING STATIONS.**

By agreement with the Port Authority arrangements exist for the breasting off of any ship at the discharging berth allocated, where such action is considered necessary by the Port Medical Officer. This is done by placing one of the barges of about 20 feet beam which are always available between the vessel and the quay, whilst the vessel is subjected to the prescribed measures.

This arrangement obviates the necessity of moving the vessel from one berth to another and facilitates the discharge of her cargo whether during or when freed from control.

## 5. ARRANGEMENTS FOR :—

### (a) *Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases.*

All cases of infectious disease other than smallpox are removed to the Isolation Hospital, Deepdale, Preston.

### (b) *Surveillance and follow-up of contacts.*

Surveillance is carried out as suggested in Section 18(2) and Section 37 of the Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

### (c) *Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles.*

The cleansing and disinfection of ships is carried out under the supervision of the Port Health Inspector. Clothing, bedding, etc., are removed in the Health Department's disinfection vehicles to the Disinfection Station at Argyll Road for steam disinfection.

Arrangements are also in existence for persons to be cleansed and disinfested at Cuttle Street Clinic and Ellen Street Cleansing Station and for clothing to be disinfested at Argyll Road Disinfestation Station.

## Section VII—Smallpox.

1. The reception of smallpox cases into hospital is in the hands of the Regional Hospital Board who advise as to which hospital is available for such purpose. Normally, Ainsworth Hospital, Bury, is retained as the first regional hospital to admit cases of smallpox.

2. Smallpox cases would be removed by ambulance belonging to Preston Corporation. The vaccinal state of the crews of these ambulances is the responsibility of the Medical Officer of Health of the County Borough of Preston.

### 3. SMALLPOX CONSULTANTS :

Dr. C. Metcalfe Brown, Town Hall, Manchester.  
Central 3377 and Ringway 4273.

Dr. E. R. Peirce, 8 Grosvenor Road, Cressington Park,  
Liverpool.  
Garston 1236.

Professor A. B. Semple, Health Department, Hatton Garden,  
Liverpool, 3.  
Central 8433 and Gateacre 2081.

4. Facilities for the laboratory diagnosis of smallpox are available at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine under the direction of Professor Downie.



### Section VIII—Venereal Disease.

Leaflets giving the undermentioned information as to location, days and hours of available facilities are distributed by the inspectors when vessels are visited :—

“The Venereal Diseases Clinic at the Preston Royal Infirmary is open at the following times :—

Tuesday	...	5 p.m.—7 p.m.	Women.
Wednesday	...	5 p.m.—7 p.m.	Men.
Thursday	...	2 p.m.—4 p.m.	Women.
Friday	...	5 p.m.—7 p.m.	Men.

Male patients from ships likely to sail before the next male clinic will also be seen on Tuesdays or Thursdays.”

A supply of glass slides has been issued to ships regularly using the port so that where a suspicion of the disease arises at sea a smear can be made at once and taken to the clinic when the ship arrives in Preston.

Sixty seamen attended for treatment at the clinic for the first time during the year.

### Section IX—Cases of Notifiable and other Infectious Diseases on Ships.

<b>Table 84.</b> <b>Cases of notifiable and other infectious diseases on ships.</b>				
Category	Disease	Number of cases during the year		Number of Ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases landed from other ships ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

No case or suspected case of smallpox, cholera, plague, yellow fever, typhus or relapsing fever occurred during the year.

## **Section X—Observations on the occurrence of Malaria in Ships.**

No case of malaria occurred during the year.

## **Section XI—Measures taken against Ships infected with or suspected for Plague.**

No ship infected with or suspected of carrying plague arrived during the year. In the event of such an occurrence, action in accordance with the measures outlined in Part I of the Fourth Schedule of the Public Health (Ships) Regulations 1952, would be pursued.

## **Section XII—Measures against Rodents in Ships from Foreign Ports.**

### **1. PROCEDURE FOR INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR RATS.**

All foreign-going vessels are inspected in the following sequence :—

- (a) Vessels from infected ports.
- (b) Vessels from foreign non-infected ports.
- (c) Foreign-going vessels that have arrived from another port in the British Isles.

Rodent operator sets traps on vessels where evidence of rats is found, and revisits these and all vessels from foreign ports daily.

### **2. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE BACTERIOLOGICAL OR PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF RODENTS, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO RODENT PLAGUE.**

Rodents caught are placed in muslin bags, dipped in paraffin, labelled and despatched to the Public Health Laboratory, Preston.

The number of rodents sent for examination during the year was 22, of which 17 were caught on board ship and 5 on the dock estate.

### **3. ARRANGEMENTS IN THE DISTRICT FOR DERATTING SHIPS.**

The deratting of vessels prior to the issue of Deratting Certificates may be effected with hydrogen cyanide or sodium fluoroacetate.

The following contractors have intimated their willingness to operate in the port :—

Associated Fumigators (Northern) Ltd., Liverpool.  
 Croftbank Chemical Co. Ltd., Oldham.  
 Fumigation Services Ltd., Ossett.  
 Hivey Fumigation Co. Ltd., Liverpool.  
 Irlam Insecticides, Liverpool.  
 Scientex Ltd., Birkenhead.



4. PROGRESS IN THE RAT-PROOFING OF SHIPS.

Instructions were given to the masters of two vessels to have rat- proofing repaired ; this was carried out before the vessels left the port.

The standard of proofing has been found to be as good as can be expected on the type and age of vessel using the port. The new bulk pulp carriers and the latest colliers give little hospitality to any rodent in the cold metal construction.

Table 85.									
Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.									
Category									Number
Black rats	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Brown rats	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Species not known	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Sent for examination	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Infected with plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

Table 86.						
Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.						
No. of Deratting Certificates issued.					Number of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued.	Total Certificates issued
After fumigation with		After trapping	After poisoning	Total		
H.C.N.	Other fumigant					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	—	—	—	1	81	82

## Section XIII—Inspection of Ships for Nuisances.

Table 87. Inspections of Ships for Nuisances.			
Nature and Number of Inspections	Notices served		Result of serving Notices
	Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
Total number of ships inspected ... 662			No. remedied
The following defects were found :—			
Vermin ... .. 42	—		24
Accommodation and fittings defective 27	—		20
Heating, lighting, ventilation defective 24	—		12
Washplaces and fittings defective ... 5	—		4
Sanitary accommodation defective ... 18	—	86	8
Food stores, preparation places and fittings defective ... .. 20	—		15
Drinking water system defective ... 3	—		3
Refuse accumulations... .. 1	—		1
Smoke emissions ... .. 18	—		18
Miscellaneous nuisances ... .. 9	—		4
Total ... .. 167	—	86	109

Of the 2,196 vessels entering the port during the year 662 or 30% were visited by the Port Health Inspector.

A large proportion of the vessels arriving in the port are regular traders, some calling three times weekly, some at monthly intervals. These vessels are visited periodically, according to the conditions found on the previous inspection. This accounts for the number of arrivals which are not visited and the low percentage of vessels visited.

87 vessels were found to have 167 defects or nuisances, 109 of which were found to be remedied later.

Cleanliness of food storage spaces and preparation places left much to be desired.



Eradication of vermin in crews' quarters and places where food is stored or prepared, is treated as an urgent necessity, and good results continue to be obtained.

Smoke emission from vessels is generally found to be due to indifference and lack of interest of those responsible. Co-operation in eliminating the smoke was always readily forthcoming and an improvement in the situation was noted as the year progressed.

#### **Section XIV—Public Health (Shell-Fish) Regulations, 1934-1948.**

There are both mussel and cockle layings in the port area, the main beds being off Lytham St. Annes on the north side of the river and between Southport pier and Formby Point on the south side.

Mussel gathering is controlled by the Preston (Shell-Fish) Regulations, 1923.

The purification station at Lytham did not operate during the year and has been permanently closed.

#### **Section XV—Medical Inspection of Aliens.**

Preston is not approved for the landing of aliens, but as will be seen from Table 83 fifty-six aliens arrived from foreign ports and thirty-five aliens departed from Preston.

#### **Section XVI—Miscellaneous.**

- (a) ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE BURIAL ON SHORE OF PERSONS WHO HAVE DIED ON BOARD SHIP FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Arrangements for the interment of a deceased member of the crew of any vessel is the concern of the shipping agent and the following procedure would be adopted in the event of a death from infectious disease. The Superintendent of Mercantile Marine acting for the Ministry of Transport would be notified immediately. The body would be removed by the Health Department staff to the mortuary of the Preston Isolation Hospital for the purpose of local enquiry and verification of the cause of death.

- (b) FOOD INSPECTION.

Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937 and 1948.

Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925-1948.

Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1926.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

Colouring Matter in Food Regulations, 1957.

Imported food consisted mainly of the following types :—

Bacon, bananas, blackberries, canned milks and creams, canned fruits and fishes, cheese, citrus fruits, coconuts, confectionery, eggs, frozen eggs, frozen milk, herrings, lard, maize, meat, milk powder, potatoes, poultry, sausage wheat.

The following 16 samples of imported foodstuffs were taken for chemical analysis by the Public Analyst, Preston.

<i>Type of Food</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>Result</i>
3 samples of fresh lemons ... ..	Br. West Indies	Satisfactory
1 sample of canned grapefruit segments ...	„	„
1 sample of fresh oranges ... ..	„	„
3 samples of fresh grapefruit ... ..	„	„
1 sample of lime juice cordial ... ..	N. Ireland	„
1 sample of orange squash ... ..	„	„
2 samples of canned sterilized dairy cream	„	„
1 sample of canned rice pudding ... ..	„	Incorrect label
1 sample of canned creamed mushrooms ...	„	Satisfactory
1 sample of canned salmon ... ..	„	„
1 sample of plain chocolate ... ..	„	„

The three results forwarded from the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination on the following items were satisfactory :—

- 1 sample of tinned grapefruit segments from British West Indies.
- 1 sample of canned creamed mushrooms from N. Ireland.
- 1 sample of canned sterilized dairy cream from N. Ireland.

The following unsound foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered :—

	T.	C.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Bananas, Coconuts and Citrus Fruits ...	532	14	3	12
Potatoes ... ..	1	9	0	2
Blackberries ... ..	0	4	0	0
TOTAL ...	534	7	3	14

No infringements of the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations regarding Official Certificates occurred.

The standard of food and conditions of transport on the ferry and container services especially were found to be very high. The speed of the services and elimination of handling were important factors in reducing normal transit wastages.



## Welfare Services

### Residential and Domiciliary Welfare Services for Handicapped Persons.

The administrative arrangements have remained unchanged throughout the year.

### Residential Accommodation.

#### Corporation Hostels.

Residential accommodation is available for the aged and infirm as follows :—

Fulwood Civic Hostel	...	...	...	278 places
Ashton House	...	...	...	44 „
Sunny Bank	...	...	...	17 „
Wilson House	...	...	...	38 „
Ancillary flats—1-2 flats	...	...	...	34 „

During the course of the year there has been a greater demand for residential accommodation. This has resulted in the creation of a small waiting list for admission at the end of the year for each of the smaller hostels, whilst the position at the Civic Hostel, Fulwood, has been such that it was found necessary to provide more accommodation for women by converting the sewing room on the top floor into a bedroom (six places), to cope with the situation. It was possible to meet all demands from male applicants and leave a reserve of accommodation available.

The modernisation and development plan started some years ago at the Fulwood Hostel is nearly complete, making it one of the finest places of its kind in the country.

A hair-stylist, part-time, was engaged during 1958. She attends on three half-days per week. This service is very popular indeed and the women residents are very keen to avail themselves of the stylist's attention.

Handicrafts in embroidery, rug-making, knitting, soft toys, leather and crotchet work, which are taught on two half-days per week are attracting an increasing number of residents and the men folk are now showing an interest in some of these occupations.

Books on general topics and fiction are distributed each week to residents through the town's travelling library service.

Film shows are provided each week and during the months January to March and October to December fortnightly concerts are held also.

The accommodation in the smaller hostels was fully occupied at the close of the year. At Wilson House it has been possible to increase the accommodation for residents by two places, by utilising a bedroom set aside for staff purposes. On an average 250 persons were in residence at the Fulwood Hostel, of these forty-three were guests from other authorities.

The usual annual outings were arranged for residents of all the Authority's Hostels.

Chiropody treatment is carried out at each of the hostels, two sessions per week being held at Fulwood, and one session arranged so that Ashton House and Wilson House are attended twice every five weeks and Sunny Bank once every fifth week.

During the year the following number of treatments were carried out :—

Fulwood Civic Hostel	...	...	1,253
Ashton House	...	...	126
Wilson House	...	...	174
Sunny Bank	...	...	117
			<hr/>
	Total	...	1,670
			<hr/>

There has been no change of personnel in the flats associated with Wilson House during the course of the year as there have been no vacancies since October, 1957. Applications keep coming in however, and the waiting list now stands at 60.

Residents of the flats enjoy the recreational facilities available at Wilson House and the housekeeper and staff of this home are available to provide help and offer assistance to them in any domestic emergency.

### **Other Hostels.**

The accommodation available to the authority at the William Wilding Galloway Home for the Blind, Penwortham, has been fully utilised and eleven Preston blind were in residence at the end of the year. One other blind person has been provided with accommodation in a home in Nelson.

Over the years it has been found necessary to provide special accommodation for epileptics and at the end of the year seven were in residence at Langho Epileptic Colony and one at the Maghull Institution. A very severely handicapped person has been found accommodation in the Ampthill Cheshire Home, Bedford.



**Table 88.**  
**Persons resident in accommodation on 31st December, 1958.**

Description of persons accommodated	In premises managed by the Council		In accommodation provided on behalf of the Council				No. of persons accom- modated for whom other local auth- orities are responsible		Total No. of persons for whom the Council are respon- sible	
			By other local authorities		By voluntary organisa- tions					
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Not materially handi- capped—										
aged ... ..	77	81	—	—	—	—	14	6	63	75
not aged ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blind—										
aged ... ..	4	2	—	—	—	10	—	—	4	12
not aged ... ..	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—
Deaf ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Epileptic—										
aged ... ..	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3
not aged ... ..	1	—	2	2	—	1	—	—	3	3
Other physically handi- capped—										
aged ... ..	63	89	—	—	—	—	12	9	51	80
not aged ... ..	3	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	3
Mentally handicapped—										
aged ... ..	4	13	—	—	—	—	1	6	3	7
not aged ... ..	7	3	—	—	—	—	4	1	3	2
Total ...	159	191	2	5	3	11	31	22	133	185

### Reception Centre.

The reception centre provides accommodation for 42 men and four women. These premises are maintained by the Council on behalf of the National Assistance Board. During the year the centre staff was increased by one. The National Assistance Board's continued policy of closing down centres and the rise in unemployment throughout the country are associated with a greater use being made of the centre during 1958 than in any of the preceding six years.

One aged woman was admitted to residential accommodation from the centre.

Table 89 shows the number of persons accommodated by month in each of the last seven years.

<b>Table 89.</b> <b>Persons accommodated in the Reception Centre, Fulwood, 1952-1958.</b>										
Month	Men	Women	Children under 16	1958 Total	1957 Total	1956 Total	1955 Total	1954 Total	1953 Total	1952 Total
Jan. ...	975	30	—	1,005	986	785	961	924	983	872
Feb. ...	945	38	2	985	976	746	897	830	774	857
March ...	1,149	30	1	1,180	1,048	951	932	1,010	993	992
April ...	1,174	53	—	1,227	1,053	881	1,073	1,046	997	1,006
May ...	1,217	48	—	1,265	1,112	951	960	1,064	1,042	1,090
June ...	1,174	35	1	1,210	1,124	923	952	1,045	1,029	906
July ...	1,148	38	2	1,188	1,183	873	882	1,076	1,058	931
August ...	1,138	42	—	1,180	1,166	937	903	1,136	997	1,042
Sept. ...	1,030	18	2	1,050	1,047	883	806	1,036	961	959
Oct. ...	951	34	—	985	1,095	805	901	1,047	1,005	872
Nov. ...	873	44	—	917	1,016	846	877	963	986	842
Dec. ...	859	62	—	921	1,026	884	829	904	894	763
Grand Total ...	12,633	472	8	13,113	12,832	10,465	10,973	12,081	11,719	11,132

### Temporary Accommodation.

Temporary accommodation is provided for up to six family units in the old nursery block at Fulwood. During the year two families were admitted, one for a period of three weeks and the other for a period of one week. At the end of the year there were no families in residence.

Maudland Bank has continued to be used for the rehabilitation of certain families. One family has been approved for a house by the housing authority. Since the opening of these premises in March, 1953, which provides accommodation for up to five family units, 13 families have been granted houses by the housing committee. Four families, comprising eight adults and 16 children, were in residence at the end of the year.

Table 90 shows the number of persons in temporary accommodation on the 31st December, 1958.



**Table 90.**  
**Persons in temporary accommodation.**

Description of persons accommodated	In premises managed by the Council		In accommodation provided on behalf of the Council		No. of persons accommodated for whom other local authorities are responsible		Total No. of persons for whom the Council are responsible	
			By other local authorities	By voluntary organisations				
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
PERSONS OVER 16—								
(a) evicted ...	3	3	—	—	—	—	3	3
(b) others ...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
ACCOMPANIED CHILDREN—								
(a) evicted ...	15		—	—	—	—	15	
(b) others ...	1		—	—	—	—	1	
Total ...	24		—	—	—	—	24	

### **Welfare of Handicapped Persons.**

The Handicapped Persons' Workshop and Social Centre—specially built premises to provide (1) an opportunity for work in sheltered conditions for physically handicapped persons unable to maintain a position in industry, (2) handicraft facilities and recreational and social activities for all classes of handicapped persons—has been opened from 2.0 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday of each week for the blind, and from 10.30 a.m. to 9.0 p.m. on Monday and Thursday of each week for the general classes of handicapped persons.

An ambulance has been purchased from the ambulance service and adapted to cater for the needs of the physically handicapped. It is used to transport this group of persons to and from the Centre for mid-day meals, handicrafts, social activities and concerts.

In November an Open Day and Sale of Work was held at the Centre, when some 500 members of the general public took the opportunity of viewing the premises. The sale of work realised £70. Entertainment, including a display of old time dancing, singing and a sketch was provided by blind and physically handicapped persons.

The Centre has formed its own Concert Party comprising blind and physically handicapped persons on the Council's register and are to put on their first show in the early part of 1959. All costumes and props have been made by the handicapped with the aid of specialist help.

### **Blind and Partially Sighted.**

During the year a total of 2,663 lessons have been given at the Social Centre to an average of 52 persons in the following handicrafts : hand loom weaving, knitting, soft toys, string bags, stool seating, coral necklaces, nylon artificial flowers, basket and rug-making, marquetry, embroidery, fire screens. In

addition eight persons unable to attend the Centre have had handicrafts taught them in their own homes.

The home teachers made 6,321 domiciliary visits.

63 persons were referred for examination to the ophthalmic specialist. He certified that 43 were blind and 20 partially sighted.

Wireless sets are provided for 38 persons, and the rediffusion service for 136 persons through the British Wireless for the Blind Fund.

219 persons can read Braille and 16 persons can read Moon. At the present time four are being taught Braille and two Moon. The National Library for the Blind Service is used by 30 of the blind and nine use the talking book service.

Free bus passes, wireless and dog licences were obtained for 251, 246 and 26 persons respectively.

Concerts and a Christmas party were held during the winter months and two summer outings were organised. These events were well patronised, an average of 100 attending the concerts and party and an average of 130 the outings.

### **Employment.**

Twenty-five persons were provided with regular employment at the Workshops for the Blind, Fulwood. Two men and one woman were undergoing training for Workshop employment at the end of the year. The unemployment position throughout the country has not affected the workers in the Workshop and there has been no unemployment in any of the departments.

Five retired workshop employees derive benefit from the Council's non-contributory pension scheme.

There are 21 persons employed in open industry of whom five are self-employed.

Active measures directed towards the placement of blind persons in employment, continue to be made directly by the staff of the authority in association with the appropriate officials of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

### **Deaf and Hard of Hearing.**

Welfare services in respect of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing are carried out on behalf of the Council through the agency of the North & East Lancs. Welfare Association for the Deaf. This Association provide a full range of services, including placement in employment, advisory, social and recreational. The Council has representation on its executive body and makes a contribution of £15 per annum for each registered deaf person residing within the borough, excluding the deaf blind school children and persons resident in Part III accommodation or hospitals. The contribution for 1958 was £1,125.

### **General Classes of Handicapped Persons.**

Handicraft, recreational and social activities are provided at the Social Centre on Monday and Thursday of each week from 10.30 a.m. to 9.30 p.m.

Handicraft sessions at the Centre have been attended by an average of 17 persons where a total of 1,715 lessons have been given. In addition 22 house-bound handicapped have had instruction in their own homes in simple pastime occupations.



An average of 25 persons have attended the recreational and social activities at the Centre.

Adaptations were carried out in the home of one handicapped person to provide for the easier passage of his wheelchair.

The usual monthly concerts and Christmas party were held during the year.

The training of the six specially selected physically handicapped in gold thread embroidery has continued throughout the period. Three of these are considered suitable for doing paid work. Unfortunately the firm who first sponsored the idea has suffered a trade recession and consequently no work has been allocated to the handicapped concerned. It is still hoped, however, that four of the six under training will be eventually found permanent remunerative employment.

Table 91 shows the number of persons included in the various registers of handicapped persons, arranged according to age, sex and handicap.

Table 91.						
Number of persons registered on 31st December, 1958, in accordance with handicap and age group.						
Age Group	Sex	Blind	Partially Sighted	Deaf	Hard of Hearing	Other Handicapped Persons
1 +	Male ...	1	—	—	—	—
	Female ...	—	—	1	—	—
5 +	Male ...	1	—	4	5	19
	Female ...	2	—	—	—	17
10 +	Male ...	2	3	2	6	49
	Female ...	—	1	—	2	50
15 +	Male ...	2	5	5	4	35
	Female ...	1	1	1	4	32
20 +	Male ...	5	1	8	1	31
	Female ...	2	—	6	5	27
30 +	Male ...	6	—	6	3	19
	Female ...	8	—	9	5	17
40 +	Male ...	15	—	7	1	28
	Female ...	10	1	7	3	33
50 +	Male ...	17	3	5	5	39
	Female ...	24	4	3	10	33
60 +	Male ...	12	1	1	3	17
	Female ...	24	3	4	7	13
65 +	Male ...	12	2	2	3	9
	Female ...	16	7	4	4	13
70 +	Male ...	33	4	5	6	16
	Female ...	77	29	4	14	31
80 +	Male ...	8	4	1	2	1
	Female ...	32	5	—	2	13
85 +	Male ...	9	2	—	3	—
	Female ...	11	3	—	1	—
90 +	Male ...	5	—	—	1	1
	Female ...	4	—	—	—	—
	Total ...	339	79	85	100	543

### **Domiciliary Visiting and Care.**

Visiting of the aged is carried out by the health visitors. During the year 574 such visits were made. On the initial visit immediate needs are met, a case history compiled and when necessary follow-up visits are carried out. Members of the staff of the Welfare Section devote part of their time to enquiries into applications for hostel admissions, for flats and protection of property.

Voluntary organisations such as the Preston Council of Social Service, the Women's Voluntary Association and religious groups have continued to provide for the regular visiting of aged persons whenever necessary.

A pleasing feature of the work done for the aged was the interest shown by young people, which has resulted in members of the Preston Council of Youth visiting twenty-five old people, doing odd jobs for them and helping them generally. The Sodality of Our Lady also has been responsible for a survey of St. John's ward. The twenty-five streets so far visited has resulted in the names of fifteen aged persons being added to the visiting list.

Another innovation was the setting up of a chiropody service, run by the Women's Voluntary Association, sessions being held on the first and second Tuesdays in each month. Some 141 old people are receiving treatment and the charge to them for such treatment is 2s. 6d. including dressings.

### **Protection of Property.**

It was found necessary to remove to a place of safety the property of five persons admitted to hospital, and in one of these cases the home of the person concerned has been visited and inspected periodically as relatives were not available to provide this service.

On nine persons provided with accommodation for a temporary period it was not necessary to remove any property. In two cases the houses were securely fastened and arrangements made for police surveillance whilst the seven other cases were of people living in lodgings and their effects were safeguarded by their relatives.

### **Interments.**

Under the provision of Section 50 of the National Assistance Act 1948, the Welfare Section has arranged for the burial of nine deceased persons for whom no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the bodies had or was being made.

Interments are arranged in accordance with set recommendations with agreed scales of charges.

Full funeral costs were recovered from the estate of the deceased in six instances, and part of the costs recovered in the three other cases.



**Table 92.**  
**Follow-up of Registered Blind Persons.**  
**January 1st—December 31st, 1958.**

	Cause of Disability				
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others	Total
1. No. of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7c of Form B.D.8 recommends :—					
(a) No Treatment ..	3	1	—	10	14
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical or optical) ..	12	3	—	14	29
Total .. ..	15	4	—	24	43
2. No. of cases at 1(b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment	10	3	—	9	22

**Table 93.**  
**Follow-up of Registered Partially Sighted Persons**  
**January 1st—December 31st, 1958.**

	Cause of Disability				
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others	Total
1. No. of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7c of Form B.D.8 recommends :—					
(a) No Treatment ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical or optical) ..	12	—	—	6	18
Total .. ..	12	—	—	6	18
2. No. of cases at 1(b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment	12	—	—	6	18

## APPENDIX

### PROPOSALS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A THIRD SMOKELESS ZONE IN PRESTON.

Consideration has been given, within the framework of the Health Committee's policy on Smoke Abatement, to the possibility of extending the present 176 acres of smokelessness in the centre of the town. A major problem has been met to the north of the existing zones by the progress made in slum clearance and this report deals with the feasibility of including a further 136 acres of mixed industrial, commercial and household property within the scheme.

Since the presentation of the report that led to the establishment of the second smokeless zone there has come into operation under the Clean Air Act, 1956, the provisions enabling local authorities generally to create smoke control areas and if the Committee decides to extend the existing areas it can advise the Council to proceed either under the general powers given in the Clean Air Act or as before under the provisions contained in its private act of 1952.

The three main differences affecting a decision on this point are as follows.

- (a) The general act provides for certain exemptions from complete smokelessness where technical issues make, in respect of a particular undertaking, such a state of affairs to be not reasonably practicable.
- (b) A government grant is available in respect of approved expenditure on household alterations under the general act.
- (c) Much more administrative work is implied in the application of the powers under the general act.

Consideration of these points in detail suggest that if the Health Committee decides to proceed with the establishment of a new zone it might be more advisable to do so under the powers given in the Clean Air Act.

Within the suggested area are many houses the subject of confirmed orders under the Housing Acts and which are in the process of being pulled down. In addition there are some 331 dwellings the subject of an official enquiry held some four and a half months ago the result of which has not yet been communicated to the Council. This latter group, on the assumption that a favourable result will be received by the Council in the near future, has been excluded from the detailed investigations from which the following data have been compiled but it should be remembered that the fires in these households will have consumed over 1,000 tons of bituminous fuel annually.



### Definition of Area.

The zone or area commences at a point on the centre line of Lancaster Road opposite Bushell Street and runs in a southerly direction to a point of junction with the centre line of Walker Street ; thence eastwards along the centre line of Walker Street to a point of junction with the centre line of Lady Street ; thence northwards along the centre line of Lady Street to a point of junction with the centre line of Lund Street ; thence eastwards along the centre line of Lund Street to a point of junction with the centre line of North Road ; thence southwards along the centre line of North Road to a point opposite the centre line of High Street ; thence westwards and generally south-westward along the centre line of High Street to a point of junction with the centre line of Lawson Street ; thence generally south-westwards across Starch House Square and Market Street, and along the north-westerly boundary of Scout Motor Services Ltd., and along the northern boundary of the Royal Hippodrome, swinging generally southwards along the westerly boundary of the Royal Hippodrome and the westerly boundary of No. 162 Friargate to a point of junction with the centre line of Friargate ; thence north-westwards along the centre line of Friargate to a point opposite the centre line of Lune Street ; thence south-westwards along the centre line of Lune Street to a point opposite the centre line of Wharf Street ; thence westerly along the centre line of Wharf Street to the point of junction with the centre line of Corporation Street ; thence generally south-westwards along the easterly boundary of British Railways to the north of the stableman's house and other buildings in the coal sidings to the north-west of Corporation Street to a point of junction with the centre line of Fishergate ; thence westwards along the centre line of Fishergate and Fishergate Hill to a point opposite the centre line of Bow Lane ; thence north-westwards and generally northwards along the centre line of Bow Lane to a point of junction with the centre line of Marsh Lane ; thence westwards along the centre line of Marsh Lane to a point of junction with the centre line of Croft Street ; thence northwards along the centre line of Croft Street to a point of junction with the centre line of Mona Place ; thence eastwards along the southern boundary of No. 36 Mona Place, across the yard of premises occupied by Chris Miller Ltd., and along the line of the northern boundary of the warehouse of this firm to a point of junction with the westerly boundary fence of British Railways ; thence south-eastwards along this fence to a point where the fence joins the southern brick parapet wall of the railway junction viaduct ; thence north-eastwards across the railway permanent way to the eastern side of the Preston-Lancaster railway track ; thence north-westwards along the eastern side of this track to a point of junction of the centre line of Pedder Street ; thence eastwards along the centre line of Pedder Street to a point of junction with the centre line of Maudland Bank ; thence southwards along the centre line of Maudland Bank to a point of junction with the northern boundary of the railway line from Maudland Bank Goods station to the Maudland Curve signal box, which lies below the road ; thence easterly along the northern boundary of this railway line to a point opposite the centre line of the Lancaster-Preston Canal which lies below the railway line ; thence northward along the centre line of the canal to a point opposite the northern boundary of the premises occupied by Seeds, Kirkham Street ; thence eastwards along Seed's northern boundary and generally along the centre line of Kirkham Street, across Fylde Road, and along the centre line of St. Peter's Square, north of the church, across

Adelphi Street and along the centre line of Harrington Street to a point of junction with the centre line of Moor Lane ; thence northwards along the centre line of Moor Lane to a point opposite the northern boundary of the premises occupied by Kirkham's (Preston) Ltd.; 144-145 Moor Lane ; thence generally eastwards and then southwards along the northern and eastern boundary of Kirkham's (Preston) Ltd., and thence eastwards along the northern boundary of the yard occupied by the North-Western Electricity Board, and along the northern boundary of the premises occupied by Duckett & Co., Bushell Street ; thence eastwards along the centre line of Bushell Street to the point of commencement.

### Size of Area.

136.16 acres.

### Number and character of Premises within the Area.

306 dwelling houses and 25 combined dwelling houses and shops at present the subject of slum clearance procedure have been excluded from the following data, otherwise all premises have been visited with the exception of approximately 20 dwellings where access could not be gained.

(1)	Dwelling houses not subject to Clearance Orders ... ..	394
(2)	Combined dwelling houses and shops not subject to Clearance Orders ... ..	61
(3)	Industrial premises (including foundries, workshops, etc.)	58
(4)	Commercial premises ... ..	69
(5)	Lock-up retail shops ... ..	117
(6)	Warehouses ... ..	11
(7)	Offices ... ..	21
(8)	Schools, Churches and Church Halls ... ..	23
(9)	Local authority premises other than schools ... ..	12
(10)	Motor and tractor vehicle repair garages ... ..	11
(11)	Premises occupied by the Crown and national undertakings	9
(12)	Clubs and institutes ... ..	3
(13)	Cafes and snack bars ... ..	5
(14)	Private hotels ... ..	1
(15)	Public houses ... ..	22
(16)	Theatres, cinemas and ballrooms ... ..	5
(17)	Other premises ... ..	16
Total ... ..		838

In these premises listed above, there is living accommodation secondary to all the public houses and this accommodation has been included in the appropriate column relating to dwellings.



### Approximate Number and Type of Appliances in Use in the Area.

	Domestic	Churches	Church Halls	Others
Open fires "adapted" ... ..	169	—	—	20
Open fires unadapted ... ..	274	4	1	117
Ranges not used for cooking ... ..	85	—	—	—
Ranges used for cooking ... ..	3	—	—	—
Stoves ... ..	4	—	—	116
Gas cookers ... ..	342	—	—	—
Electric cookers ... ..	82	—	—	—
<b>Central Heating Boilers</b>				
Solid fuels—				
Smokeless ... ..	—	8	5	65
Bituminous ... ..	—	—	—	9
Gas fired ... ..	—	—	—	15
Electrically fired ... ..	—	—	—	2
Oil fired ... ..	—	—	—	13
Steam raising boilers—				
Smokeless ... ..	—	—	—	5
Bituminous ... ..	—	—	—	8
Incinerators ... ..	—	—	—	4
Metallurgical and other furnaces—				
Gas ... ..	—	—	—	2
Oil ... ..	—	—	—	2
Smokeless solid fuel ... ..	—	—	—	23
Gas or electricity used exclusively for space heating ... ..	3	—	—	75

In addition 37 private dwelling houses are without a piped supply of town's gas.

#### Fuel used.

In addition to the expected considerable increase in the use of town's gas it is estimated that a total of 4,000 tons of bituminous fuel now being burnt in the area will have to be replaced by solid smokeless fuel or liquid fuel.

#### Adequacy of Regional Fuel Supplies.

No material difficulty has been encountered in the supply of smokeless fuels in the two existing zones. The Gas and Electricity Boards have co-operated actively and fully and both gas and electricity are available in ample supply whilst coke is known to be readily available in excess amount. Alternative solid fuels have hitherto been obtainable on request particularly coalite and there is no reason to believe that the producers of this fuel will not co-operate as fully as they have done hitherto.

**Cost of Conversion.**

Experience gained in the introduction of the second Preston zone suggests that an average figure of £12 per house for adaptations is not unreasonable and that an appreciable number of firegrates will not need to be altered either because the appliance will already burn coke satisfactorily or because the occupier is prepared to burn coalite in an older type of grate. In consequence, a total expenditure of £5,500 is likely to be an over estimate of the actual sum finally approved for grant purposes.

J. S. G. BURNETT,

Medical Officer of Health.



COUNTY BOROUGH OF PRESTON  
LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY

# A REPORT

OF THE

## School Medical Officer

on the health of the school children  
and on the work of the school health  
service for the year  
1958.

# INTRODUCTION

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL SERVICES SUB-COMMITTEE  
OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

The work of the school health service established as it is on a long determined pattern is nevertheless gradually changing with altered conditions.

The rising standard of living is associated with a rising standard of physical fitness and general well-being so that the amount of defect associated with poverty and squalor is much less than was the case some years ago.

An interesting comparison is made in Table 95 of the nature and number of defects found in 1948 and 1958. All groups show a material reduction except one in which more comprehensive ascertainment is likely to have been the factor in producing an increase.

Table 98 brings out also the improvement in the incidence of skin infestation and disease normally associated with poor home hygiene. Even the ubiquitous head louse is gradually being brought under control though there is still a long row to furrow.

These changes in the picture of school health provide the opportunity for further and more detailed study of the disease situations as they occur and for a fuller and more sustained service to the child. In this respect the provisions made for the more serious forms of handicap and mental subnormality, and cerebral palsy have reached a high standard in recent years.

Among the lesser handicaps it has been possible to reorganise the ophthalmic work whereby Dr. Dowling undertakes regular refraction work in association with Dr. Plum functioning in a consultative capacity and this service has in consequence been put back on a very satisfactory footing. Conversely the dental service is in dire straits for lack of staff and there is a shortage also in the speech therapy section.

Nevertheless, I am happy to be able to report that the health of the Preston school child remains good and that, apart from the dental service, reasonable facilities are available for the handling and control of any problem that may arise.

Though immunisation against certain diseases is a function of the health committee and is recorded in consequence in the report to that committee, it is appropriate to record here that the immunisation state of the school children in Preston in respect of diphtheria and poliomyelitis, which stands high, and that of tuberculosis, which is reasonably good, owes a great deal to the sensible and helpful attitude of head teachers in all the schools and for which I am grateful.

J. S. G. BURNETT,

*School Medical Officer.*



## Statistical Data.

Statistical data, including the cost of the School Health Service and tables relating to the medical inspection of school children, will be found at the end of the report.

## School Population.

The table below shows the number of schools of various types in the Borough and the number of children on the roll at 22nd December, 1958.

Table 94. School population.								
Type of School						No. of Schools	No. on Roll	
Primary and Secondary	...	...	...	...	...	82	16,570	
Secondary Grammar	...	...	...	...	...	5	3,200	
Secondary Technical	...	...	...	...	...	1	240	
Special (Day)	...	...	...	...	...	2	215	
Nursery School	...	...	...	...	...	1	100	
Total						91	20,325	

Schools closed during the year were :—

St. Mary's R.C.	...	...	...	...	...	90 pupils
St. Mark's Infants	...	...	...	...	...	50 pupils
Hincksman	...	...	...	...	...	80 pupils
Ashton Methodist	...	...	...	...	...	60 pupils

Schools opened during the year were :—

Blessed John Southworth Secondary, in January	...	...	...	...	815 pupils
St. Maria Goretti Infants, in April	...	...	...	...	250 pupils
Brookfield County Primary, in August	...	...	...	...	280 pupils
Ribbleton Hall County Secondary, in September	...	...	...	...	680 pupils

### School Hygiene.

Each of the four schools opened in 1958 shows again the planning and thought that is given nowadays to the environmental conditions in which children are educated. Modern types of heating, good natural and artificial lighting, adequate ventilation and air space, and sufficient washing and lavatory facilities combine to make the conditions for the children in the new schools far superior to those in which their parents generally have to work.

### School Clinics.

The following is a list of the school clinics in the town and the number and nature of the sessions at each :—

#### Saul Street.

Special medical inspections	...	Alternate Thursday mornings.
Minor ailments and specialist clinic treatments	... ..	Daily (mornings).
Dental clinic	... ..	Daily.
Physiotherapy	... ..	4 sessions per week.
Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic	...	Monday and Wednesday afternoons.
Refraction clinic	... ..	Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings, Friday afternoons, and alternate Wednesday mornings.
Speech Therapy	... ..	Daily.
Audiometry	... ..	2 sessions per week.

#### Cuttle Street.

Special medical inspections	...	Friday morning.
Minor ailments	... ..	Daily (mornings).
Physiotherapy	... ..	Daily.
Dental clinic	... ..	Daily.

#### Manchester Road.

Special medical inspections	...	Monday morning.
Minor ailments	... ..	Monday and Thursday mornings.
Physiotherapy	... ..	5 sessions per week.

#### Open Air School.

Special medical inspections	...	1 session per week.
Minor ailments	... ..	Daily.
Physiotherapy	... ..	Daily.
Paediatric clinic	... ..	Alternate Thursday mornings.
Orthopaedic clinic	... ..	Once a month on Wednesday morning.



**Barlow Street.**

Special medical inspections	...	Tuesday morning.
Minor ailments	... ..	Daily.

**Tulketh Road.**

Physiotherapy	... ..	Daily.
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**Water Lane.**

Dental clinic	... ..	Daily.
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**North Road.**

Dental clinic	... ..	Daily.
Orthodontics	... ..	Once a month on Saturday morning and once a month on Tuesday morning.

**Eldon Street.**

Dental clinic	... ..	Daily.
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**School Meals and Milk in Schools.**

On the average, one-third of the school children in Preston take school dinners and nearly three-quarters of them drink a bottle of milk at school. Data relating to school meals and milk-in-schools will be found on page 151 in the appendix.

**PERIODIC AND SPECIAL MEDICAL INSPECTION.**

The main work of the school health service was again the periodic and special medical inspection of schoolchildren. In Preston children continue to have a general medical inspection at least three times during the period when they are at school : (1) On entry to school, (2) at eleven years of age, and (3) in the year prior to leaving school. In spite of the greatly improved general condition of the children examined, a remarkable number of defects is still found, many of them slight and many previously undetected.

Altogether 6,026 children were given a periodic medical inspection in 1958, compared with 6,469 in the previous year. Defects requiring treatment totalled 1,404. Further comment on the defects found is made below.

For periodic medical examinations to be effective co-operation is needed both with the teacher and the parent. The presence of the parent at the inspection of the younger age-groups is especially important but nearly a third of the parents in these cases do not attend. Figures for the proportion of parents attending have remained fairly constant for the different groups of children over the past few years, with an overall average of about one-third of the parents present at the inspection. Co-operation with teaching staff remains good,

Details of the findings at medical inspections will be found at the end of the report in Tables 102, 103, 104 and 105.

In addition to the general medical inspections, routine vision testing by the school nurses continued to be carried out on eight-year-old children.

**General Physical Condition of Schoolchildren.**

Once again the vast majority of Preston schoolchildren were found to be of “satisfactory” general physical condition, and only 13 out of the 6,026 children examined during the year were classed as of “unsatisfactory” condition.

**Defects found at Medical Inspections in 1958, compared with ten years previously.**

The following table shows the relative incidence of certain defects found at medical inspections in 1958 and 1948.

Table 95. Certain defects found at periodic medical inspections in 1958 and in 1948.										
Defects requiring treatment									1948	1958
Skin	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	138	75
Vision	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	324	633
Nose and throat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	197	123
Lymphatic glands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46	11
Heart	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	168	11
Lungs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	127	53
Total number of defects found									1,994	1,404
Total number of children examined									6,026	5,818

The total number of children examined at periodic inspections in each of the two years was approximately the same, but the total number of defects found requiring treatment had fallen appreciably by 1958.

The only group which showed a rise in incidence in 1958 was that of defects of vision, and this seems due not to the more frequent occurrence of defective vision but rather to the introduction of routine testing of eyesight at the age of eight and thus increased ascertainment of visual defects.

Apart from defects of vision, the number of defects found requiring treatment shows a remarkable fall over the ten-year period—from 1,670 in 1948 to 771 in 1958. This decrease underlines the general impression of the improved health of schoolchildren in Preston in recent years. All the more important groups of defects, except those of vision, showed a fall in incidence to a greater or lesser degree.



Nose and throat defects found decreased by about a third in respect of those requiring treatment, but there was a slight increase in the number of defects requiring observation only—from 450 in 1948 to 476 in 1958. These changes may be partly explained by the changed attitude towards enlarged tonsils which form the bulk of this group of defects. Such cases are now less frequently referred for treatment and in any case are normally observed for a period first.

Heart defects show a marked difference in the numbers found in 1958 and 1948 to require treatment. There were 168 in 1948 and only 11 in 1958. Figures for 1948 also included defects of the circulation but these formed a relatively small proportion, approximately one-tenth, of the total. The probable reasons for the difference over the ten-year period are, firstly, a genuine fall in the incidence of heart disease associated with a reduction in the number of cases of rheumatic carditis, and secondly the less serious view taken nowadays of heart murmurs generally.

Defects of the skin, lungs and lymphatic glands also show an appreciable decrease since 1948.

#### **Children who have had Tonsillectomy.**

Figures continued to be kept during 1958 of the number of children seen at periodic medical inspections who had had tonsillectomy previously, and the following table gives details of the results obtained.

Table 96.										
Children seen at periodic inspections in 1956—1958 who have had tonsillectomy.										
Age group of children						Percentage of children examined who had had tonsillectomy				
						1956	1957	1958		
Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	6.3	5.3	3.9		
Second age group (11-year-olds)	...	...	...	...	...	19.0	15.5	11.6		
Third age group	...	...	...	...	...	20.0	17.8	15.4		
Total (all ages)						...	...	15.0	12.9	10.6

#### **HANDICAPPED PUPILS.**

One of the most important aspects of the work of the school health service is still the ascertainment and supervision of handicapped pupils so as to ensure their placement in the educational environment most suited to their disability. Details of the number and disposition of such pupils are given in Table 106 in the appendix. Figures throughout the table and the following notes refer to numbers at the end of the year. The total number of children classed as "Handicapped Pupils" was 430. Of these the three largest groups were 118 pupils suffering from speech defect, 100 educationally subnormal pupils and 96 delicate pupils.

### Children in Residential Special Schools.

(a) BLIND PUPILS. There were two children classed as blind and both were in the Liverpool School for the Blind, Wavertree, Liverpool.

(b) PARTIALLY SIGHTED PUPILS. The two partially sighted children both attend the School for Partially Sighted Children, Fulwood, Preston.

(c) DEAF PUPILS. The ten pupils in this group were placed as follows :—

Royal Cross School for the Deaf, Preston	...	...	6
St. John's Institution, Boston Spa, Yorkshire	...	...	4

(d) PARTIALLY DEAF PUPILS. Fourteen of these children required special school education and were in the Royal Cross School for the Deaf, Preston.

(e) EDUCATIONALLY SUBNORMAL PUPILS. There were three such pupils in residential special schools—one in Pontville R.C. School, Ormskirk ; one at Besford Court R.C. School, Worcester ; and one at St. Francis School, Kings Heath, Birmingham.

(f) EPILEPTIC PUPILS. Four children in this group were in residential special schools—one in St. Elizabeth's R.C. School, Much Hadham, Hertfordshire ; two in Maghull Home, Maghull, Liverpool ; and one in Lingfield School for Epileptics, Surrey.

(g) MALADJUSTED PUPILS. There was one maladjusted pupil in Clywd Special School, Ruthin.

(h) PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PUPILS AND DELICATE PUPILS. The disposition of the ten such pupils who were in residential schools at the end of the year was as follows :—

Bradstock Lockett School, Southport	...	...	...	...	1
Convalescent Home for Physically Handicapped Children, West Kirby	...	...	...	...	3
The Margaret Barclay School, Moberley, Cheshire	...	...	...	...	1
St. Mary's College, Bexhill-on-Sea	...	...	...	...	1
Bethesda Home for Crippled Children, Salford	...	...	...	...	1
Children's Convalescent Home, Hawkshead Street, Southport	...	...	...	...	1
Lostock Open-Air School, Bolton	...	...	...	...	1
Irton Hall, Holmrook, Cumberland	...	...	...	...	1

### Children in Day Special Schools.

#### 1. OPEN AIR SCHOOL FOR EDUCATIONALLY SUBNORMAL PUPILS.

There were 75 pupils at the Open Air School for Educationally Subnormal Children in Moor Park at the end of the year. There had been 15 admissions and 13 discharges in 1958. Details of mental examinations carried out during the year are given in Table 113 in the appendix.

#### 2. OPEN AIR SCHOOL FOR PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN.

At the end of 1958 there were 136 children at the Open Air School for Physically Handicapped Pupils in Moor Park. Table 97 shows the classification of the 31 children admitted to the school during the year.



**Table 97.**  
**Classification of cases admitted to the Open Air School for Physically Handicapped Pupils in 1958.**

Anaemia	...	...	...	...	1
Asthma	...	...	...	...	4
Bronchiectasis	...	...	...	...	1
Cerebral Palsy	...	...	...	...	3
Chronic Otorrhoea	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	1
Rheumatic Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	1
Epilepsy	...	...	...	...	4
General debility	...	...	...	...	13
Spina Bifida	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculous Pleural Effusion	...	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	...	31

### Children having Home Teaching.

Altogether 29 children who were unable to attend school over a long period were given home teaching for some time during 1958. There were 19 such children at the beginning of the year, 10 new cases were added and 17 discharged and one died during 1958, and at the end of the year 11 children were having home teaching.

The 29 cases who had home teaching during the year were classified as follows :—

Rheumatic heart disease	...	...	...	2
Congenital heart disease	...	...	...	1
Juvenile rheumatoid arthritis	...	...	...	2
Perthe's Disease	...	...	...	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	4
Chorea	...	...	...	1
Glandular fever	...	...	...	1
Paralysis from poliomyelitis	...	...	...	1
Sarcoma of arm	...	...	...	1
Spina bifida	...	...	...	2
Asthma	...	...	...	1
Haemophilia	...	...	...	2
Tuberculous pleural effusion	...	...	...	1
Epilepsy	...	...	...	1
Cerebral cyst	...	...	...	1
Osteomyelitis	...	...	...	1
Congenital deformity of spine	...	...	...	1
Nerve injury in leg	...	...	...	1
Muscular dystrophy	...	...	...	1
Bronchiectasis	...	...	...	2

## **Cerebral Palsy.**

### **Spastic Class.**

There were 9 children in the spastic class at the Open Air School at Moor Park of ages ranging from 5 to 15 years.

One girl, age 5, was admitted to the class from the Lancashire County area and one boy, age 9 years, who had developed cerebral palsy after an illness was also admitted.

All but one of the children can now walk everywhere without help, although still needing considerable effort to do so. In general they have maintained and improved on last year's achievements of swifter and more complicated movements. The older children are now fully accepted by the less handicapped children in the rest of the Open Air School as one of themselves rather than as someone to be sorry for, since they can now join in with them in games. This reduces their sense of being "children apart."

Four children attended symphony concerts with the rest of the school during the year. Another girl has started to attend the domestic science classes, one boy has joined the gardening class, three of the older children have gone with the rest of the school on visits to places of interest and one child sings in the school choir.

Visits to the swimming baths have continued, swimming or floating giving great pleasure and sense of achievement to cerebral palsied children. Three children can now swim alone.

### **Other Cerebral Palsied Children.**

All the children in the spastic class are seriously handicapped. Three children who are less handicapped are in the Open Air School for Physically Handicapped Pupils and join in all the activities of that school. Other children with cerebral palsy are able to attend ordinary school.

The children's progress and activities are supervised at the orthopaedic and paediatric clinics and case conferences are held regularly on each child.

## **Audiometry.**

Both the pure-tone and the gramophone audiometers continued to be used for hearing testing during the year. Pure tone audiometry was carried out in association with the ear, nose and throat clinic. Gramophone audiometry was used to test the hearing of nine-year-old children in schools.



The following are figures relating to gramophone audiometry carried out in 1958 :—

Total number of children tested	...	...	...	1,064
Number of children failing at 9 db. and referred for pure-tone audiometry	...	...	...	64
Proportion failing to pass at 9 db. level	...	...	...	6.0%
Number with normal hearing on pure-tone audiometry	...	...	...	34
Number failing pure-tone audiometry in one or both ears	...	...	...	19
Number awaiting pure-tone audiometry	...	...	...	11
Number referred to E.N.T. clinic	...	...	...	19

Disposal of those children referred to E.N.T. clinic :—

Referred for tonsillectomy	...	...	...	...	1
For regular observation at E.N.T. clinic, but requiring no treatment at present	...	...	...	...	7
For ear treatment at clinic	...	...	...	...	1
No treatment required	...	...	...	...	2
Not yet seen at E.N.T. clinic	...	...	...	...	8

### Speech Defect and Speech Therapy.

Once again the work of treating speech defects in 1958 was seriously curtailed by the shortage of speech therapists. For six months only one part-time therapist was available, and when she left in July, the service was left without any speech therapist at all. In September, however, a full-time therapist was appointed and the number of children on the waiting list for speech therapy had been reduced to 51 by the end of the year.

Cases discharged as improved during the year numbered 45 and were made up as follows :—

Dyslalia (i.e., omission, substitution and mutilation of speech sounds)	...	...	...	...	...	26
Stammering	...	...	...	...	...	14
Dyslalia and stammering	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cleft palate	...	...	...	...	...	2
Partially deaf	...	...	...	...	...	2

At the end of the year 83 children were having treatment.

### Handicapped Children leaving School.

Co-operation was continued with the Youth Employment Officer on the choice of employment for handicapped children leaving school. Forms Y9 and Y10 were completed when necessary to give the Youth Employment section information on types of work for which particular children were unsuited because of their handicap. Case conferences were held with parents, head teacher and Youth Employment Officer on the employment of children leaving the Open Air School for E.S.N. children and the Open Air School for Physically Handicapped Pupils.

## SPECIALIST CLINICS.

### Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic.

This clinic continued to be held twice a week at Saul Street Clinic. School-children referred to the clinic numbered 348 and the following were the conditions for which they were referred :—

Enlargement or infection of tonsils and adenoids	...	252
Disease of the ears	... ..	17
Defective hearing	... ..	35
Nasal catarrh	... ..	33
Other conditions	... ..	11
		<hr/>
		348
		<hr/>

The increase in the number of children dealt with is due to the transfer of a number of children waiting to be seen at the Preston Royal Infirmary Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic to Saul Street Clinic.

Details of the work done at the clinic are given in Table 108 on page 156.

### Ophthalmic Clinics.

(a) SQUINT CLINIC. The special eye clinic for cases of squint was held once a fortnight at Saul Street Clinic. The numbers dealt with are shown in Table 109 on page 156.

(b) REFRACTION CLINICS. These were held regularly at Saul Street Clinic. There were three sessions per week up to December, when a fourth session was started. One of the assistant medical officers, Dr. Dowling, who had previous experience in refraction work, took over one of the sessions in October when the ophthalmologist who had undertaken it previously retired. She has also carried out the extra session which started in December.

### Paediatric Clinic.

The paediatric clinic continued to be held once a fortnight at the Open Air School Clinic. Cases dealt with at the clinic totalled 128 during the year and were classified as follows :—

Cerebral palsy	... ..	16
Asthma and associated conditions	... ..	20
Bronchitis and bronchiectasis	... ..	26
Cardiac lesions	... ..	16
Rheumatism	... ..	1
Obesity	... ..	15
Epileptiform attacks	... ..	4
Coeliac disease	... ..	3
Enuresis	... ..	5
Other conditions	... ..	22



### Orthopaedic Clinic.

The orthopaedic clinic continued to be held once a month at the Open Air School Clinic and the physiotherapists from the various clinics attended with their cases. The various defects dealt with were as follows :—

Infantile paralysis	...	...	...	...	10
Cerebral palsy	...	...	...	...	14
Congenital deformities	...	...	...	...	29
Other deformities	...	...	...	...	129
Traumatic lesions	...	...	...	...	6
Tuberculosis of bone	...	...	...	...	1
Inflammatory lesions	...	...	...	...	5
Tumours	...	...	...	...	3
Other	...	...	...	...	1
					198

### OTHER SERVICES.

#### Physiotherapy.

Physiotherapy sessions were held throughout the year at Cuttle Street, Manchester Road, Tulketh Road, Saul Street, Guttridge and the Open Air School Clinics. Remedial exercises and artificial sunlight therapy were provided. Altogether 489 schoolchildren had remedial exercises and 156 had artificial sunlight therapy in 1958.

#### Minor Ailments.

Details of the number and nature of the conditions treated at minor ailments sessions during the year are given in Table 107 on page 155. There was a slight increase in the numbers of scabies cases treated compared with the previous year, but once again there was a fall in the number of children treated for impetigo. The following table shows how certain skin conditions have varied in incidence over the past ten years.

Table 98.											
Cases of certain skin conditions treated at Minor Ailments Clinics.											
	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Ringworm of the scalp ...	—	105	45	6	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Ringworm—body	55	46	33	22	9	9	5	5	4	9	6
Scabies ...	201	139	77	92	46	29	8	15	46	23	49
Impetigo ...	367	227	123	144	361	963	1074	796	515	377	252

Ringworm of the scalp and of the body and scabies have decreased in amount over the ten years, though there has been a recent slight increase in the incidence of scabies. Impetigo seems to pursue a cyclical type of course and is at the moment showing a downward trend in frequency of occurrence.

### **Uncleanliness.**

There was a slight improvement in the incidence of head louse infestation during the year as will be seen from the following table, but the number of infected heads remains much too high in spite of the intensive efforts of school nurses and the work of the cleaning centres to reduce it.

<b>Table 99.</b> <b>Uncleanliness.</b>		
	1957	1958
Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses ... ..	43,970	47,276
Total number of individual pupils found to have head louse infestation ... ..	2,093	1,821

### **Convalescent Homes.**

Children examined and considered suitable for a holiday at Thomas Parkinson House, St. Annes, numbered 257 in 1958. The majority spent two weeks there, but four children remained for four weeks, fourteen for three weeks, and seven children for one week only.

### **Training College Entrants and School Teachers.**

Candidates medically examined for fitness for admission to teacher training colleges, numbered 23 during the year. Persons starting teaching work other than those coming directly from teacher training colleges were also examined and numbered four in 1958.

### **School Dental Service.**

The Senior Dental Officer, Mr. A. Kershaw, has kindly contributed the following note on the work of the School Dental Service for the year 1958 :—

“The year commenced on a distressing note, with the untimely death of the Senior Dental Officer, Mr. J. C. Knowles, on the 3rd January. He had faithfully served the Preston Corporation some thirty years.



Resignations for various reasons followed through the year. One dental officer resigned in May in order to read for a higher dental qualification. Mr. G. Williams resigned and retired in August after approximately twenty-eight years service with the authority. Another dental officer resigned in October, to take an appointment with the Lancashire County Council.

A new senior Dental Officer was appointed on the 27th February and took up duties on the 2nd June.

A continuity of advertisements in the *British Dental Journal* has failed to fill any of the posts for dental officers, with the result that the Senior Dental Officer has been working single-handed at the North Road Clinic since November.

The emergency work is therefore converging on the North Road Clinic. This being situated centrally equalises the distances travelled by children from all parts of the Borough.

School inspections and treatment are falling behind in the uncovered areas. The loss of continuity of inspections rapidly leads to apathy of both children and parents alike, resulting in children only being presented for treatment when in pain.

In view of the high caries rate in children, the lack of dental staff is causing great concern. Full-time appointments of dental officers will, I fear, have to be substituted in some measure by part-time appointments. The lack of response to advertisements, referred to above, suggests that this alternate course may well have to be resorted to in the near future.

On the 27th October, a special committee met to discuss the dental situation. A recommendation was passed that future advertisements in the *Dental Journal* may add the possibility of paid evening sessions in addition to a full-time post. This inducement, it was thought, may arouse the interest of candidates.

The Medical Officer of Health, present at the meeting, suggested that enquiry be made into the possibilities of employing an anaesthetist to aid the Senior Dental Officer with cases involving general anaesthetics. This has resulted in a consultant anaesthetist becoming available on a sessional basis.

Orthodontic cases are receiving treatment as in the preceding year by the part-time orthodontist.

The total work carried out during the year is shown in Table 100."

**Table 100.**  
**Dental Inspection and Treatment.**

1.	Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers—						
	(a)	Periodic Age Groups	...	...	...	...	6,125
	(b)	Specials	...	...	...	...	1,116
							7,241
2.	Number found to require treatment						4,358
3.	Number referred for treatment						3,635
4.	Number actually treated						2,356
5.	Attendances made by pupils for treatment						5,630
6.	Half-days devoted to :						
	(a)	Inspections	...	...	...	...	48
	(b)	Treatment	...	...	...	...	946
	Total (a) and (b)						994
7.	Fillings :						
	Permanent Teeth						2,386
	Temporary Teeth						977
	Total						3,363
8.	Number of Teeth filled :						
	Permanent Teeth						2,238
	Temporary Teeth						946
	Total						3,184
9.	Extractions :						
	Permanent Teeth						625
	Temporary Teeth						1,649
	Total						2,274
10.	Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction						1,173
11.	Other operations						
	Permanent Teeth						2,553
	Temporary Teeth						607
	Total						3,160
12.	Orthodontics						
	(a)	Cases commenced during the year	...	...	...	...	19
	(b)	Cases carried forward from previous year	...	...	...	...	61
	(c)	Cases completed during the year	...	...	...	...	26
	(d)	Cases discontinued during the year	...	...	...	...	12
	(e)	Pupils treated with appliances	...	...	...	...	58
	(f)	Removable appliances fitted	...	...	...	...	30
	(g)	Fixed appliances fitted	...	...	...	...	9
	(h)	Total attendances	...	...	...	...	390
13.	Number of pupils supplied with artificial dentures						23

### Physical Education.

Other than the facilities associated with the new schools opened in 1958 no change took place in the general arrangements for physical education as set out in last year's report.



## STATISTICAL DATA

**Table 101.**  
**Cost of School Health Service 1958/59.**

Expenditure	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£34,801
Income	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£1,037
Net expenditure	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£33,764
Ministry of Education grant	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£19,763
Net Cost	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£14,001

### School Meals.

I am indebted to the Chief Education Officer for the following data on the School Meals Service and Milk in Schools Scheme.

"The School Meals Service provides milk, dinners and teas. Teas and breakfasts are taken at the Open Air School and Stoneygate Nursery School, and during the summer 5,361 packed dinners and 4,370 packed teas were supplied to schools going out on educational visits. At Christmas 12,189 party teas were provided for school parties.

A total of 60 dining centres catered for dinners during the year. A summary of the findings of three surveys carried out gives the number of children taking dinners on three normal school days :—

February, 1958	...	...	7,906
June, 1958	...	...	7,857
September, 1958	...	...	8,293

The total number of dinners supplied during the year was 1,788,513.

During the year four kitchens were opened :—

Blessed John Southworth R.C. Secondary School Kitchen—opened 7th January, 1958.

St. Maria Goretti R.C. Infants' School Kitchen—opened 21st April, 1958.

Brookfield County Primary School Kitchen—opened 1st September, 1958.

Ribbleton Hall County Secondary School Kitchen—opened 1st September, 1958.

### Milk-in-Schools Scheme.

During the year some 3,191,671 bottles of milk were consumed ; 2,941,098 in Maintained Schools, and 250,573 in Non-maintained Schools, representing a daily average of 15,810."

**Table 102.**  
**Physical Condition of Children seen at Periodic Medical Inspections.**

Age groups inspected (By year of birth)	No. of pupils inspected	Physical condition of pupils inspected			
		Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
		No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1954 and later	111	111	—	—	—
1953	915	914	99.89	1	0.11
1952	712	709	99.58	3	0.42
1951	30	30	—	—	—
1950	34	33	97.06	1	2.94
1949	30	30	—	—	—
1948	70	68	97.14	2	2.86
1947	2,018	2,014	99.80	4	0.19
1946	102	102	—	—	—
1945	274	274	—	—	—
1944	439	438	99.77	1	0.23
1943 and earlier	1,291	1,290	99.92	1	0.08
Total	6,026	6,013	99.78	13	0.22



**Table 103.**  
**Physical Condition of Children Examined, 1949-1958**

	Percentage Satisfactory		Percentage Unsatisfactory	
1958	99.78		0.22	
1957	99.78		0.22	
1956	97.90		2.1	
	Good	Fair	Poor	
1955	49.6	48.6	1.8	
1954	55.5	42.7	1.8	
1953	52.4	44.7	2.9	
1952	46.2	50.7	3.1	
1951	39.3	57.7	3.0	
1950	44.7	51.3	4.0	
1949	34.2	61.8	4.0	

**Table 104.**  
**Summary of children seen at periodic inspection.**

	No. of Children inspected	No. of occasions parent present	Percentage of parental attendances
Entrants ... ..	1,791	1,176	65.66
Second age-group ... ..	2,394	634	26.48
Third age-group and other periodic inspections ...	1,841	39	2.1
Total ... ..	6,026	1,849	30.68

**Table 105.**  
**Defects found at periodic or at special inspections.**

Defect or Disease	Periodic Inspections		Special Inspections	
	Number of defects		Number of defects	
	Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment	Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment
Skin ... ..	75	141	42	48
Eyes (a) Vision ... ..	633	169	192	44
(b) Squint ... ..	93	62	18	8
(c) Other ... ..	19	34	9	4
Ears (a) Hearing... ..	16	33	25	11
(b) Otitis Media ... ..	19	39	9	2
(c) Other ... ..	22	64	16	7
Nose or Throat ... ..	123	476	92	53
Speech ... ..	13	77	32	13
Lymphatic Glands ... ..	11	180	5	6
Heart ... ..	11	103	2	3
Lungs ... ..	53	247	31	26
Developmental (a) Hernia ... ..	—	5	—	—
(b) Other... ..	8	113	9	4
Orthopaedic (a) Posture ... ..	53	120	19	10
(b) Feet ... ..	128	228	39	13
(c) Other... ..	60	205	35	17
Nervous system (a) Epilepsy ... ..	2	23	2	2
(b) Other ... ..	5	60	3	6
Psychological (a) Development ... ..	2	41	1	7
(b) Stability ... ..	9	78	7	6
Abdomen ... ..	6	27	3	4
Other... ..	43	239	71	67
Total ... ..	1,404	2,764	662	361



**Table 106.**  
**Disposition of Handicapped Pupils at the end of the Year.**

Classification	Total No.	Special School		Home Teaching	Ord. School	No School	Having speech therapy
		Day	Resid.				
Blind ... ..	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Partially sighted ... ..	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Deaf ... ..	10	—	10	—	—	—	—
Partially deaf ... ..	34	—	14	—	20	—	—
Educationally subnormal	100	75	3	—	22	—	1
Epileptic ... ..	7	3	4	—	—	—	—
Maladjusted ... ..	9	—	1	—	8	—	—
Physically handicapped ...	52	37	7	6	—	2	5
Delicate ... ..	96	87	3	5	—	1	5
Speech defect ... ..	118	—	—	—	118	—	74
Total ... ..	430	204	44	11	168	3	85

**Table 107.**  
**Minor Ailments Treated (excluding uncleanness).**

							Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during	
							1957	1958
SKIN—								
Ringworm—Scalp—								
(i) X-ray treatment	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
(ii) Other treatment	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Ringworm—Body	...	...	...	...	...	9	6	6
Scabies	...	...	...	...	...	23	49	49
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	...	377	252	252
Other skin diseases	...	...	...	...	...	647	1,251	1,251
EYE DISEASE—								
(External and other, but excluding errors of re- fraction, squint and cases admitted to hospital)	...	...	...	...	...	606	558	558
EAR DEFECTS—								
(Excluding serious diseases of the ear, e.g., operative treatment in hospital, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	409	406	406
MISCELLANEOUS—								
(e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	14,445	15,494	15,494
Total	...	...	...	...	...	16,516	18,016	18,016
Total number of attendances at Authority's minor ail- ments clinics	...	...	...	...	...	32,452	35,621	35,621

**Table 108.**  
**Work carried out at E.N.T. Clinic.**

[illegible]

**Table 109.**  
**Work carried out at Squint Clinic.**

[illegible]

**Table 110.**  
**Work carried out at Refraction Clinic.**

[illegible]



**Table 111.**  
**Work carried out at Paediatric Clinic.**

Number of individual children attended	...	...	...	...	...	128
New cases	...	...	...	...	...	29
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	...	336
Total attendances	...	...	...	...	...	365
Referred—X-ray	...	...	...	...	...	10
Admission to hospital	...	...	...	...	...	11
Other forms of treatment	...	...	...	...	...	27

**Table 112.**  
**Work carried out at Orthopaedic Clinic.**

Number of individual children attended	...	...	...	...	...	198
New cases	...	...	...	...	...	48
Total number of attendances made	...	...	...	...	...	324
Number of children referred for treatment in hospital	...	...	...	...	...	4
Number of Surgical Appliances, e.g., boots, irons, etc., supplied through Centre	...	...	...	...	...	93
Number of children X-rayed	...	...	...	...	...	26

**Table 113.**  
**Mental testing—Education Act, 1944, sections 34 and 57—**  
**Children examined and reported upon.**

No. deemed to be educationally subnormal	...	...	...	...	15
For admission to day special school for E.S.N.	...	...	...	14	
For admission to Residential School	...	...	...	1	
No. deemed not to be educationally subnormal	...	...	...	22	
Remain in ordinary school	...	...	...	8	
Remain in ordinary school with special tuition	...	...	...	13	
Admitted to Open Air School, P.H. Dept.	...	...	...	1	
Classification postponed	...	...	...	...	3
No. reported as ineducable—S 57(3)	...	...	...	...	5
No. reported as needing supervision—S 57(5)	...	...	...	...	7
					—
					52
					—

